

TAPR BBS Special Interest Group Archive, May 1994 through December 1995

May 1994 through December 1995

TAPR's forum for packet-radio bulletin-board operators and users, including hierarchical addressing, message forwarding, BBS software, sysop practices, user education, network efficiency, and systems such as FBB, JNOS, RLI, 4RE, GTEPMS, and NNA.

This volume contains 19 original monthly files and 1,948 messages, arranged chronologically. The PDF is a readable access copy: MIME transfer encodings are decoded, HTML bodies are converted to plain text, and non-text attachments are represented by descriptive notes. The raw source text is supplied separately with the Internet Archive item.

This is the TAPR BBS Special Interest Group discussion list, not the separate TAPR-BB organizational announcement list.

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May 1994

Original source file: bbssig.9405

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9405

1. F6FBB software Bug

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sun, 29 May 1994 14:24:13 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9405291413.B2655-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I was just told by n5ist who I forward with that the f6fbb software version 5.15C has a bug. The monitor mode will only monitor the first port listed. I had experianced this problem but thought it was my setup error. The best solution to the problem is to go back to version 5.15B which does work as advertised.

73, de k5di@k5di.na.usa.na

2. user thoughts

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Mon, 30 May 1994 15:54:19 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9405301554.aa03668@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

As a BBS user, I would offer the following thoughts:
(thought)

It is highly likely that many users are not familiar with just addressing "forsale" messages to their state or region first, before going allusa or WW even!!

The for sale to allusa messages typically get passed right over because there are SO MANY. I doubt a many of these for sale messages where first sent out on a local basis. On the for sale issue, I typically scan the message list for items addressed to TEXAS and skip the rest.

(I do look at items I'm interested in, like DX stuff addressed to allusa, etc.)

But it would be nice if sysops instructed or had a permanent bulletin on their BBS instructing users how to send the bulletin to their state or region....

73's Robert w5rober#blkbox.com (@ not #)
or w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu if the other bounces
WB5CRG

3. BBSSIG Positions Available

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Mon, 30 May 94 17:25:59 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9405302225.AA140876@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Anyone interested in an opportunity that may involve some travel, the chance to work with some of the more productive people of the digital world, and the ever-lasting gratitude of hams everywhere?

If so, several exciting positions are yours for the asking in TAPR's BBSSIG! PS: these positions are volunteer and the travel will be at your expense! Membership in TAPR is desired. If aren't already of member of TAPR, SHAME ON YOU!!

Seriously, several separate areas have been identified in two live meetings of the BBS Special Interest Group (at TAPR's annual meeting and at the Dayton Hamvention), that require the TLC and time of dedicated individuals to drive them forward. If successful, you will be making some significant contributions to the efficiency of bulletin board operation and the enjoyment of this activity by many thousands in the U.S. who provide BBS service and the countless thousands more who use boards.

The BBSSIG sub-committee positions are:

1. * Case Study Archivist *

You will pester folks near and far until they print out or make disk files of their bbs setup files and send them to you. Desired also are brief descriptions of the hardware used and hints & kinks associated with the hardware/software. Bug reports and what was done to overcome them are important aspects of the role this person will play.

Eventual goal is to incorporate some of the information found in these case studies in a TAPR Guide to Successful BBS Operation. Immediate goal is the collection of information which shows what sysops are doing in various parts of the country with from and to fields, hierarchical addressing, distribution methods (i.e., helter-skelter, hub and spoke, linear, etc.), etc. You are encouraged to publish articles in TAPR's quarterly journal, the Packet Status Register.

2. * Co-Authors of the 'TAPR Guide to Successful BBS Operation' *

You'll take the data collected by the Case Study Archivist and, working with a small sub-committee of the BBSSIG, develop a set of guidelines for sysops, ranging from the inexperienced to the intermediate skill level. These guidelines will be sample setup files for each of the popular BBS software programs. These will be turn-key setups so that a newcomer may take them, customize them with callsign and forwarding information, and have a functioning bulletin board without having to reinvent the wheel (like too many of us have had to do!!).

The participants in this project should be very familiar with one or more BBS software packages. Several of the software authors are participants on the BBSSIG and you shouldn't be bashful about asking them (succinctly and within reason) for advice in the preparation of your segment of this document.

It will help to have writing ability and aren't sensitive to having your writing edited.

3. * BBSSIG Forum Moderator *

Riding shotgun over the TAPR BBSSIG on-line forum, porting significant news and information to the packet RF network for the benefit of those who don't have Internet or e-mail access, and priming the pump whenever discussion lags. Diplomacy is paramount. Tolerance for opinions are varied and infinite. Know how to steer on-line discussion back to constructive issues if it starts getting out of the charter under which it was established.

=====

Common to all of these key rolls is having a pro-organization philosophy, the skills to work with a wide variety of individuals (some of whom you may not agree with), and the sincere desire to see the ad-hoc digital BBS network move forward by better education and the exchange of experience and ideas among interested sysops.

If you have the time to make the commitment to any of these volunteer positions, please contact me at your earliest convenience:

Dave Wolf
Internet: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu
CompuServe: 73427,2246
AX.25: W05H@W05H.#DFW.TX.USA.NOAM
voice: (817) 295-6222
fax: (817) 295-6232
post: Route 6 Box 247/Burleson, TX 76028-9315

Best of 73 de Dave W05H
Chairperson of TAPR BBS Special Interest Group

4. Re: user thoughts

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Mon, 30 May 94 18:09:21 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet (TAPR BBSSIG)
Message-ID: <9405302309.AA145325@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

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>
> >From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
> Subject: user thoughts
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Mon, 30 May 1994 15:54:19 -0500 (CDT)
>
>
> As a BBS user, I would offer the following thoughts:
> (thought)
> It is highly likely that many users are not familiar with
> just addressing "forsale" messages to their state or region
> first, before going allusa or WW even!!
>
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> because there are SO MANY. I doubt a many of these for sale
> messages were first sent out on a local basis. On the for
> sale issue, I typically scan the message list for items
> addressed to TEXAS and skip the rest.
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> (I do look at items I'm interested in, like DX stuff
> addressed to allusa, etc.)
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> But it would be nice if sysops instructed or had a permanent
> bulletin on their BBS instructing users how to send the bulletin
> to their state or region....
>
> 73's Robert w5rober#blkbox.com (@ not #)
> or w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu if the other bounces
> WB5CRG
>
>
PS: that's w5robert@blkbox.com

```

Thanks for your input, Robert!

Education of the user and the sysop are two important elements in the advancement of BBS operation that face us in the coming years. Many sysops expressed disappointment that there were so many 'for sale' @ allus messages generated that really didn't belong. There is a great reluctance to kill messages, and there are so many folks discovering the fun of packet every day that it is hard to provide the friendly 'Elmering' that many sysops were able to do in the earlier years. Instead of one-on-one chats that we used to have, it's primarily responding to messages from the more sincerely curious (and receptive to accepting advice) users. General bulletins tend to get passed over too often. bulletins to users from sysops, I'm talking about.

One service I've provided for users of my BBS from day one, is to print out a copy of the user docs if they send an SASE. It's easy to spot them once they've started going through the guide; they become more sophisticated in how they list new bulletins.

Getting the 'word' out to users that in many places the network is choking on bulletins that are read by few folks is a challenge. At the Dayton BBSSIG workshop, several of the sysops reported that activity analysis showed 75% of the bulletins that were on their systems were never read by even one user! They were concerned that the forwarding of these bulletins were displacing P and T type traffic; the very messages most of the 'old timers' set their boards up for primarily, in the first place.

How to reinforce the fact that our ad-hoc network has bandwidth limitations which requires responsible posting of ALLUS and WW messages WITHOUT giving the impression that we are attempting to restrict the exchange of ideas between folks is tough. What would be of value for many BBSSIG participants, would be to share how you (diplomatically) encourage restraint when it comes to the posting of the messages that Robert mentions. How about it, folks?

73 de Dave W05H
of censorship

5. COM port and Rodent Problems (fwd)

```

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Mon, 30 May 94 18:15:50 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9405302315.AA145625@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

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Here is something I found on AMSAT-BB which might strike a responsive chord with a BBS sysop. I know it did me (I was struggling with getting an oddball com port and IRQ setting to work on a standby computer last night!). If you can help Dr. Tom, please reply to his individual e-mail address and by all means, post a :cc to the BBSSIG and NETSIG addresses (bbssig@tcet.unt.edu, netsig@tcet.unt.edu). 73 de Dave W05H

Forwarded message:

> From listmaint@AMSAT.Org Mon May 30 16:49:26 1994
> Date: Mon, 30 May 94 19:30:15 UTC
> Message-Id: <25475@tomcat.gsfc.nasa.gov>
> From: clark@tomcat.gsfc.nasa.gov (Tom Clark -- W3IWI)
> Reply-To: clark@tomcat.gsfc.nasa.gov
> To: gps-dev@amsat.org.amsat-bb@amsat.org
> Subject: COM port and Rodent Problems
>
> Sorry to use the bandwidth here for a (hopefully) mundane question, but with
> all the geniuses monitoring, I thought maybe I could find someone who could
> help.
>
> Here is the problem: I have run out of RS232 ports on my 486 machine. I have
> installed an additional dual-port RS232 board (by Boffin) to give me 2 more
> ports which can be mapped to any of a number of I/O addresses and IRQs. But
> some of the software I am using for the GPS work going on here requires
> that COM1 and COM2 be available for data. I have already moved the TCP/IP SLIP
> link to COM4 and a non-standard IRQ to take care of the modem. Thanks to KA9Q
> for providing NOS with the capability of using other async ports!
>
>
> The problem I have been tearing my hair out is rodentia related. I am using
> a Logitech trackball in lieu of a conventional mouse (since I never have any
> space on the table) for both Windows and CAD, and it is equipped with a
> standard 9-pin RS232 connector.
>
> I would like to run the trackball on COM3 and I have scoured the system to
> make a few IRQs available. But I can't seem to get Logitech's software to
> install reliably regardless of what COM port & IRQ I try unless it is COM1
> or COM2. I have tried using COM3/IRQ4 in the undocumented dual, shared IRQ
> mode that Logitech purports to support and find that the GPS hardware on
> COM1/IRQ4 clobbers the mouse interrupt. I have tried installing it with a
> dedicated IRQ on COM3 and Logitech's driver chokes up.
>
> My 486 has a couple of free slots, and I have both a Logitech and a Microsoft
> INPORT-style BUS mouse board, but I can't find an adaptor cable to get from
> the 9-pin RS232 connector to the INPORT's 9-pin mini-DIN connector.
>
> I have a cable that would allow the Trackball to be plugged into a PS2 mouse
> port (6-pin mini-DIN connector) but I have been unable to find a PS2 bus
> mouse board to use.
>
> So here are the questions:
>
> (1) Does anybody know of a trick to use a non-standard COM/IRQ on a Logitech
> mouse (Like software patches, magic cookie configuration commands, etc)?
>
> (2) Does anybody know how to make the shared IRQ mode work?
>
> (3) Does anybody know of a source for a 9-pin RS232 to 9-pin mini-DIN INPORT
> adaptor? Or at least, the pinout that is needed if I have to kludge my own
> adaptor cable?
>
> (4) Does anybody know of a PS2 bus mouse adaptor board (i.e. 6-pin mini-DIN)?
>
> (5) Does anyone have the magic commands for the Mouse configuration for
> Windoze 3.1 SYSTEM.INI file?
>
> (6) Barring these simple solutions, has anyone got any MessDOS software
> patches to trick a program into using non-standard hardware COM/IRQ whilst
> thinking it was talking to a normal COM1/2? (like can QBASIC be tricked into
> providing async support for anything other than COM1/2?)
>
> (7) Are there any other solutions to these dilemmas?
>
>
>
> ***** FLAME ON *****
> Damn IBM & Microsoft & Logitech & all their ilk for thinking that nobody
> could ever possibly need more than 2 COM ports!!!! (and yet providing
> MessDOS support for three(!) LPT ports)
> ***** FLAME OFF *****

>
>
> 73 de Tom, W3IWI
> w3iwi@amsat.org
>
>

6. AX.25 and automatic forwarding

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 30 May 1994 19:35:10 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu (BBSSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199405310035.TAA11406@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

This came out of discussion on the NETSIG group, but I thought I would cross post it to the BBSSIG.

The main reason is the comments made at Dayton about allowing others modes beside AX.25 for automatic operation.

Greg

>
> I think AX.25 is the only protocol that the FCC allows us to use. If
> you're talking about higher level protocols, then it all looks like data
> to AX.25 anyway. For networking protocols I think we DESPERATLY need a
> new protocol. Somthing between TCP/IP and ROSE. Virtual Circuit connects,
> low overhead, and has a network management protocol.

Part 97.109e Station Control

"No station may be automatically controlled while transmitting third-part communications, except a station retransmitting digital packet radio communications on the 6m and shorter wavelength bands. Such stations must be using the AX.25.. Version 2.0, Oct 84 (or compatible) which The retransmitted messages must originate at a station that is being locally or remoetely controlled."

This has to do with Station Control. The new rule changes coming in June 1st, change some of this, but the major change was to define who is held responsible when for what. But there are several changes in the defs. Most defining aux station, forwarding station, and the like. The major point is that we will have problems with this eventually because e-mail is a different animal than what has been traditionally defined as amateur 3rd party traffic. BBS Store-and-forward is not the only way to send station to station e-mail. Also - the first forwarding station is only held accountable if they are not providing authentication. This is an important point.

Now at the FCC Form at Dayton, when the Automatic Message Forwarding stuff was discussed, the following was stated "Another accommodation was made by broadening that exception to the prohibition on your VHF and UHF stations transmitting third party traffic while under automatic control. It will include other message forwarding protocols, not just the ARRL AX.25". (Quote from W5YI Report)

This effects a lot of things, since folks are using Clover, AMTOR, etc, plus what ever we coming up with later... This help things that we might want to eventually want to do without having to ask for a STA at the same time. Although this is still up for interpretation.

Is this confusing enough ?

Greg

7. Re: COM port and Rodent Problems (fwd)

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Mon, 30 May 1994 23:07:21 -0500 (CDT)
To: TAPR BBSSIG <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9405302307.aa22478@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Tom, sorry can't be of any help on the com ports yet.
I'll be setting up com 3 & 4 later this year, HOWEVER,
I would like to ADD to your flame ON:
Being on a network system, I have access to MANY printers BUT
can only make use of three, because I only have three LPT's to
redirect. So the problem is with both comm & lpt ports.

8. Rodent problems

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 31 May 1994 08:28:25 -0600 (MDT)
To: clark@tcet.unt.edu
Cc: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9405310803.A20844-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Tom well as a bbs person with lots of ports (4) from my computer to tnc's and modems I have faced your rodent problem. Here is what I know for fact:

1. NEVER share an IRQ when a rodent is using it! The rodent takes all the work the IRQ can handle.
2. The cards with 2 com and 2 lpt and a game port will let you set up a computer with useable com 1 thru 4 ports. Com 3 and 4 use IRQ's that were supposed to be used for the LPT ports.

Now what I don't know for sure. I am at a loss to understand why you are using the logitek software if you are using windows. I use windows 3.1 and get good rodent action using whatever comes with windows. To make this work Tom, you load windows with the mouse plugged into com 3 if that is what you want. When windows comes up it has found my rodent and it works happily for ever after.

There must be a way to load a new mouse AFTER you have loaded windows but I have not used it.

73, karl k5di

July 1994

Original source file: bbssig.9407

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9407

1. Re: Join BBSSIG poll questions

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Fri, 01 Jul 94 07:53:00 EDT
To: TAPR BBSSIG <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E14047B@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Are you a packet BBS SysOp? A "wannabe" SysOp? If either, consider these questions:

1. What is the biggest mistake a PBBS SysOp can make?

Overlooking the potential in using a PBBS software package that can smoothly integrate the "standard" AX.25 PBBS network with the growing TCP/IP networks.

2. Should you use NA or NOAM in your hierarchical address?

NA, if it doesn't conflict with any other country/continent designator.

3. Which PBBS software is best--RLI? 4RE? FBB? JNOS? GTEPMS? NNA?

JNOS, by far! MSYS is a distant second.

4. Should I exercise censorship on my board?

No. But user education is a top priority!

5. Are "for sale" messages bringing the network to its knees?

No, but indiscriminate "@USBBS" postings waste a lot of bandwidth and users' time.

6. What can we do to better educate our users?

Mainly, advise them on the proper way to address bulletins, regarding the "TO," "@" and "Subject" fields. For example, addressing a message to "SALE @ USBBS" with a subject "For sale" is mindless! New (and some experienced) packet BBS users must be tutored in the appropriate methods of addressing packet bulletins so that they're easier and more convenient to read, and so that they're routed ONLY to the proper geographical areas.

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10	I	Internet	bbattles@arrl.org	I	"Radio amateurs
QST Features Editor	I	CompuServe	70007,3373	I	do it with high
ARRL HQ	I			I	frequency"
Newington, CT USA	I	MCI Mail	215-5052		
Tel 203-666-1541	I	Amprnet	ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org [44.88.2.43]		
Fax 203-665-7531	I	AX.25 packet	WS10 @ W1EDH.CT.USA.NA		
BBS 203-666-0578					

=--> Sometimes you have to look reality in the eye and deny it. <--=

COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS
AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

2. PBBSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque...

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Wed, 06 Jul 94 14:08:00 EDT
To: TAPR BBSSIG <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Cc: 'BB via Internet' <real-bbattles@mgate>
Message-ID: <2E1AF2E8@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

WARNING: THIS IS A HUGE MESSAGE! 8-)

(I accidentally left my /VERBOSE parameter on!)

=====BEGIN QUOTED MATTER=====

Date: Fri, 1 Jul 1994 08:08:35 -0500 (CDT)
>From: ssampson@sabea-oc.af.mil (Steve Sampson)
Subject: Stinkin' PBBS

bbattles@arri.org writes about what dgregor@bronze.coil.com writes:

>> I've been thinking of something like this. If everyone could get together
>> and write a good Amateur Radio PBBS program for Linux

> why isn't there a good, solid, NOS-based PBBS package available for hams
who
> run DOS, Windows or OS/2 machines?

Gary L. Grebus writes:
> "Stamp out the PBBS in our lifetime."

Gary speaks pretty much the opinion of most people that have been around packet radio for any length of time. If you really want to bore someone to death, have them buy a TNC and log into a PBBS for 10 days; then call the coroners office for a pickup. It's not something that gets better with age. Just like the bulletin board in the lobby of schools and offices, nobody ever reads it, but a lot of people stick things on it.

Probably the only intelligent thing I've read on the subject of transferring information has to do with broadcast protocols. For example, it seems criminal that a PBBS would hand deliver copies to a circle of machines on the same frequency (eg, a satellite, or a town PBBS) when it could just broadcast the information while the others listened. The other really interesting article is "The HUB 5/29 IP Routing Experiment" in the 12th ARRL Digital Conference. Read this, and then decide whether you're still interested in a boring PBBS. Paul Overton and Ian Wade discuss a really nice routing scheme (only a mobile user would complain I suspect--but TCP/IP isn't ready for mobile/portable anyway) and then goes on to explain their modifications to NNTP that takes advantage of this. We've seen several automated IP routing schemes proposed, but the truth is that ham networks don't need them. If you have more than 3 entries in your routing table, you should read this article. I'd like to read more about this system and maybe see a distribution for others to duplicate.

Basically I see no advantage of prolonging the PBBS given an operating network. The lack of a network is the reason the PBBS exists today. I think if towns or communities developed along the lines of the HUB 5/29 article it would make for a simple (easily duplicated) network scheme that could transport more substantial mail or news articles. I know this will never happen in Oklahoma because there's no organization, but other communities should look into this network and abandon the stupid PBBS, Rose and Netrom.

Steve

Date: Fri, 01 Jul 94 15:55:24
>From: kz1f@RELAY.HDN.LEGENT.COM
Subject: Stinkin PBBS

> Gary speaks pretty much the opinion of most people that have been around
> packet radio for any length of time. If you really want to bore someone
> to death, have them buy a TNC and log into a PBBS for 10 days; then call
> the coroners office for a pickup. It's not something that gets better
> with age.

I couldn't agree more. However I think the real problem is the bulk of the PBBS users are running DOS (or maybe even Windoze) and use a terminal emulator or (terminal.exe) to log into their favorite PBBS. The machines are probably 286's and the memory is 640k. To answer Brian's question, the folks writing the "really slick new" software aren't running 286s with 640k and given its such an labor of love to write this stuff they generally write it with the understanding that they too will use it. If I'm reading the sentiment right, one won't find any more DOS based xNOS's. There'll be char based Unix or graphically based OS/2 or maybe even Windoze-based versions of TCP/IP suites that may not even support AX.25 mailboxes nor netrom....I know mine won't.

Walt

Date: Fri, 1 Jul 1994 18:56:55 -0700
>From: Phil Karn <karn@qualcomm.com>
Subject: Why not a solid PBBS program?
To: bbattles@arri.org

> Perhaps it would take a commercial venture to do it right. Would a PBBS
>SysOp, who's spent maybe \$1000-\$2000 (or more) on radios, TNCs, antennas,
>PCs, etc., also shell out maybe \$50-\$100 or so for GOOD software that beats
>the heck out of the standard freebie AX.25 PBBS packages or the bazillion
>semi-complete NOSs floating around?

Why do we have to have PBBSs at all, especially if we're using TCP/IP? Why do hams have to keep reinventing the wheel, especially ones that aren't quite round? What's wrong with just using all the mail and news software that the rest of the Internet uses that seems to work fine for them? Why do hams always have to be different?

Phil

=====END OF QUOTED MATTER=====

I must say that I agree, in principle. Your everyday local DOS-based AX.25 PBBS is a neat resource that's become an anachronism with so many more advanced choices today. The simple problem is that the hundreds of PBBS SysOps and thousands of PBBS users aren't likely to drop everything and tackle that infamous "NOS learning curve" after they've just (in many cases) gotten close to mastering MSYS, W0RLI, FBBS, etc.

We have to face it, in 1994, at least, your average amateur packet radio operator still sees TCP/IP as an "experimental" mode. But most packet ops have come to rely on packet (PBBS or DX cluster) as a service not unlike the telephone company. It's more a utility to them than a real "ham radio" mode. Thousands of radio amateurs operate their TNCs with dumb terminals, and they're satisfied. People who want file transfers rely on their cheap 14,400 bit/s telephone modems. Unsatisfactory experience with digipeaters and nodes has left many hams cold and uninterested in packet anymore, and unwilling even to try out TCP/IP.

I know it's difficult for people like us to imagine, but I know young (teens through 30s), enthusiastic new hams who don't have the vaguest guess at what a DOS is or how to turn on a PC. Many of them, however, always hear all about packet from ham friends and are interested in getting started. Taking someone who doesn't even know the difference between an RS-232 connector and an ac cord and trying to describe how to operate a plain AX.25 TNC is a challenge; teaching them what TCP/IP is and how to use might well be a full-time job!

There always have been and always will be amateurs with widely differing levels of knowledge, interest and experience. A few of us are comfortable with TCP/IP, HF DXing, contesting, ragchewing on repeaters, playing with RTTY, AMTOR, PacTOR and satellites, pointing ATV cameras at each other, running community service communication activities, and piddling around with simple kits. Others use their licenses solely to experiment with VHF/UHF packet. The AX.25 PBBS network is a simple, "lowest-common-denominator" system for sending mail and ragchewing via keyboard (as mail or in real time). Personally, I feel that it would be far more efficient and productive to essentially let all the AX.25 PBBSs fade away to be supplanted by a national (worldwide?) network of TCP/IP users and Switches (ideally, all running *at least* 9600 bauds), with all sorts of useful, interesting Servers, Internet wormholes and gateways, and links to HF (ALE, Clover, G-TOR, whatever).

Is this going to happen? Perhaps. Soon? No. Until TNCs come with built-in TCP/IP software and a friendly (GUI?) interface, learning to set MYCALL and TXDELAY, how to switch from cmd: to converse mode, and how to connect to a PBBS and list/read SALE@USBBS bulletins or DX spots is enough for most amateurs who own packet equipment. That is real life, outside these conferences and newsgroups.

What's my point? Simply that AX.25 PBBSs are here to stay (for now) and the only way to get the main body of the packet population interested in TCP/IP and other advanced modes is to coexist with AX.25 PBBSs. This means gatewaying mail between AX.25 and SMTP, offering Telnet to users who enter the TCP/IP system via plain AX.25 connects, providing Convers servers (and other "goodies"), and perhaps even (shudder) inventing a truly efficient method to operate a DX cluster on a NOS-based station in a way that's better than AK1A's PacketCluster. All those SALE, WANTED, HELP, HUMOR, NASA, KEPS, AMSAT, ARL, DX, FEST, EXAMS, MODS, etc, bulletins have to be available to someone who dumps his PBBSing habit and commits a PC, radio, TNC and a bunch of hours of learning and tweaking to operating NOS.

Why convert more packet operators from AX.25 to TCP/IP? Because every station running NOS can act as a link or even a Switch, if they're in an advantageous location and there's a need. There's no major functional

distinction between one NOS user and another, as there is between a user and a PBBS in the "plain-AX.25" world. Very broadly speaking, more TCP/IPers means more service and connectivity, whereas more AX.25 users means more congestion and less efficiency. When it comes to TCP/IP (again, very generally speaking), the more users, the better. Not to mention that larger local groups means more people potentially willing and able to pool resources to invest in central LAN Switches with duplex repeaters and dedicated Switch-to-Switch links.

There's no need to "dilute" NOS or try to mash in enough code to turn it into a completely "dual-personality" AX.25 PBBS and TCP/IP combo-in-a-box. But it would be useful to see a reasonably smooth (I hate the word "seamless") system for intermingling as much of the two flavors of packet as possible, at least until TCP/IP users clearly outnumber AX.25 packeteers.

=====

Say, here's a rare opportunity: I "guest wrote" what's planned to be the Packet Perspective column in September '94 QST. Here's my first draft...have a gander at it (especially the last paragraph) and shoot me e-mail if you have any substantial, specific points you want to clarify, correct or submit an opinion about. No guarantees about whether I'll use it, or even that my final draft will look much like this, but I'd like to see how you as an informed packet operator feel about this:

Packet Perspective

@USBBS

Anyone who has visited the Never Land of written electronic communication knows that the open forum provided by telephone bulletin boards (BBSs), the Internet and other similar media have long offered users exciting, effective means of discussing, debating and announcing diverse opinions, issues and emotions. These environments have traditionally relied on two basic means of controlling the content of messages posted and behavior of those who choose to participate: (1) a "gatekeeper" and (2) peer pressure. The gatekeeper (SysOp) can decide who may post material, what may be posted and if it will be forwarded. Peer pressure, the most visible yet least powerful, provides a vocal, but ultimately impotent form of obligation to conformity. It does this through friendly advice, admonishment, chastisement and outright insult. In amateur packet radio, a third entity wields a measure of control: The regulator (the FCC), which determines what is legally acceptable.

Traditional wired networks, such as the seminal Fidonet, maintain an accepted level of decorum through a time-honored voluntary standard of cooperation and a well-defined hierarchy of people who have definite levels of enforcement authority. Specific areas, also known as "conferences" or "forums" (or Echoes, in the case of Fidonet), are designated where users may write messages pertaining to that area's usually narrowly defined topic. A volunteer, often selected by conference participants, acts as moderator. This person's job is to regularly post a set of conference rules, to monitor the posted messages and to point out transgressions. Theoretically, the moderator's presence is to serve as a referee, to inform users of transgressions and to reduce the amount of peer-to-peer bickering among users over each others' perceived misbehavior. Users who repeatedly violate the rules after sufficient warnings from the moderator are reported to the SysOp of the site where the user logs in to post messages, who provides the offending user access to the conference. It becomes the SysOp's responsibility to counsel, rehabilitate, educate or bar the user's access to the conference. The SysOp is motivated by the potential consequence of having his BBS excommunicated from the network if he fails to exercise the proper control over his users' behavior.

In the world of amateur packet radio bulletin boards (PBBSs), however, there are differences that make control and adherence to standards difficult to implement. For one thing, open packet bulletin traffic isn't carried and categorized in distinctly separate "conferences" that a user may conveniently choose to read or ignore by simply selecting from a menu. All packet bulletins are mixed into a homogenous list that users see whenever they log in and request a listing of the day's latest

mail. Second, the spirit of democratic, uncensored participation that offers many advantages to radio amateurs precludes most SysOps from refusing access to uncooperative users, and even pressures them to make undesirable messages available to all of their local users, and even to forward such messages to other PBBSs in the network. SysOps have been roundly and publicly criticized for refusing to forward bulletins they deemed to be inappropriate, even if only for purely technical reasons. In many raging discussions, users have maintained that a SysOp is obligated to accept and forward their message without question, as long as it doesn't expressly violate any FCC rules. (This is, by the way, entirely untrue. According to the law, no SysOp is under any obligation to do anything whatsoever with any radio amateur's messages, and the law also states that a PBBS is its SysOp's privately operated radio station, for which the SysOp is permitted--in fact, expected--to monitor and control the material it transmits.)

Educating Users

To turn to a more basic, pragmatic issue, many packet operators have spent many hours discussing the frustration of having these PBBSs, supposedly design and built for the main purpose of carrying person-to-person mail traffic and occasional bulletins of general interest, into electronic "classified ad pages." Notices that carry announcements of items for sale, swap or wanted, noticeably far outnumber every other single type of bulletin. Because of its convenience, low cost and apparent effectiveness, PBBS users inundate the airwaves with a nationwide swapfest day and night. Most messages in this category are individually harmless, but when viewed as a class, are the greatest consumers of computer storage space, message-forwarding time and bandwidth.

Many SysOps, and more PBBS users, complain that all you ever see listed on a PBBS today are screenfuls of "SALE@USBBS" messages and so on. It's an understandable lament: There's a lot of stuff in there, but most of it is "junk mail" most users will never read. For example, a ham in Boston isn't likely to care about a personal computer or hand-held transceiver being sold by an amateur in Seattle. But there are hundreds, perhaps thousands of amateurs in Washington or perhaps the Pacific Northwest region who will read and respond to such a notice. So why waste the time and bandwidth to send this bulletin ping-ponging all over the US by addressing it so it's forwarded to "@USBBS"?

In a sadly ironic way, most packet messages posted aren't nearly as efficient as the non-SysOp packet operator believes. It's common to see items too insignificant or unwieldy to be easily sold to amateurs hundreds of miles away sent out addressed to "FOR SALE @ USBBS," a lazy, or perhaps misunderstood format that causes thousands of amateurs in Alabama, for example, to have their local PBBSs spew forth several screens full of listings for hand-held transceivers, parts, batteries and other such items that are being offered by hams in Oregon or Alaska, and that are likely to be sold by the time they reach most out-of-state PBBSs.

SysOps: Can You Do It?

Perhaps there needs to be a system implemented by which SysOps would be asked to voluntarily help educate users by requiring the user to read an educational message about the most appropriate way to address bulletins before the user would be given the privilege of posting a message that was intended to be forwarded to other PBBSs. This would require at least two things: (1) The PBBS software would have to support a method of doing so, and (2) The SysOp would have to be willing to invest whatever additional time it might take to grant access to potential users who acknowledge that they've read and understand the proper procedure.

Is it reasonable to suggest that PBBS SysOps route incoming messages addressed to @USBBS" to some kind of holding bin, unless they meet certain criteria (eg, ARL, KEPS, AMSAT, FCC, SYSOP, DX, etc)? For example, do we really need so many SALE, WANTED, HELP, FEST and EXAM bulletins addressed to, and circulated over the airwaves to, @USBBS? Does it offer any real advantage to the user

who posts it? Isn't it more efficient, timely and appropriate to post most bulletins to a local, state or regional circulation? Could PBBS SysOps do this, and would they want to? How much extra time and effort would it take? Can any of this be automated? Will an investment in the time and energy now pay off later with less "junk mail" coming through each PBBS in the near future, if users can be taught to cut down the unnecessary "@USBBS" traffic? And how much actual improvement would that offer all amateurs, regarding the possible decrease in traffic transmitted via VHF/UHF backbone and HF forwarding?

This could certainly be implemented in a friendly manner, with errant users gently instructed in a friendly, helpful manner. Each PBBS SysOp could prepare a "boilerplate" text he could use to inform a user whose postings were held or rerouted that would explain what was done, why it was done and how to avoid such faux pas in the future. A standard one-page (one screen?) message from the SysOp could simply inform the user that @USBBS is, by conventional agreement, reserved for messages that, by their inherent nature, lend themselves most advantageously to distribution to the entire nation's amateurs. It could advise the user that buying, selling, swapping or evaluating almost any Amateur Radio item could be quite effectively accomplished via a local or regional bulletin, and that he should seriously consider if the hams in a distant state will care or be able to take advantage of the information in certain types of messages.

The Alternative

This primarily concerns standard AX.25 PBBS users and SysOps because more advanced software, such as that used for TCP/IP networking, doesn't even involve PBBSs, as most hams know them. A TCP/IP user finds his mail forwarded neatly stored in his own private mail area on his own computer's disk drive. Bulletins can be forwarded only to TCP/IP operators who specifically request them, by category, from stations that act as "gateways" to collect useful bulletins from local AX.25 PBBSs and mail them directly to those who want to see them. Ideally, if all US packet stations operated TCP/IP software, rather than standard, "built-in" AX.25, the traditional PBBS could be eliminated and amateur packet radio would function more like the Internet. Each station would be accessible directly by every other station, and each amateur could choose to "subscribe" to "newsgroups" that encompass particular topics.

Let's hear what you think, as a packet operator, and especially as a PBBS SysOp. Poke holes in my suggestion or offer ideas on how to improve it. Be constructive and thoughtful, and perhaps we'll be able to slowly educate our fellow packet operators so that we can all help each other maintain, expand and speed up our powerful, impressive amateur packet radio network.

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10	I	Internet	bbattles@arrrl.org	I	"Radio amateurs
QST Features Editor	I	CompuServe	70007,3373	I	do it with high
ARRL HQ	I	MCI Mail	215-5052	I	frequency"
Newington, CT USA	I				
Tel 203-666-1541	I	Amprnet	ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org	[44.88.2.43]	
Fax 203-665-7531	I	AX.25 packet	WS10 @ W1EDH.CT.USA.NA		
BBS 203-666-0578					

COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS
AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

3. Re: PBBSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque... Stinkin' PBBS Stinkin PBBS Why not a solid PBBS

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Wed, 6 Jul 94 15:13:23 MST
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407062222.AA152838@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Brian you certainly have raised some thought-provoking issues here! I kinda like the way the usenet operates. It allows one to subscribe to those topics one is interested in. JNOS was kind of a step in that

direction, but not quite there. If the PBBSES would allow the users to subscribe (rather than manually install filters) to a topic area, I have no doubt that our local read count would go way up.

There is a way to educate the users and that would be for the software developers to include NEW USER files with each release. The purpose of these files would be to give a short BBS operating summary on how to use the board. The software developers wouldn't have to personally write these files. They could be provided by others. However they DO need to be included in the software releases. Otherwise you never would see enough sysop support to include them on their own.

While I personally use and enjoy NOS, I'm not ready to herald tcpip as the end of all ends. The thing that kills tcpip in the radio world is high overhead. I have yet to see any successful operation with NOS on the HF frequencies. NOS can operate there of course, but now very well with the tcpip protocol. ^ not

I think AX.25 has a lot of life left in it. There is a revision on its way out that will allow more functionality. Look at what the TPK terminal program allows in consort with FBB. I haven't used it, but understand it allows a user to pick up bulletins without specifically requesting them. This of course saves time and overhead. Some of the new terminal programs allows one to write scripts to go out and pick up their mail at whatever time they choose. These features are great for reducing channel congestion.

If and when the new ax.25 source is released there will be plenty of opportunity for those that like to do code work to come up with all kinds of features, some of which even now, NOS no longer has a corner on.

Regarding the posting of SALE items on the system, I for one like them. I am not much of a seller, but I do like to buy things. Doesn't bother me a bit to see a tower listed 2500 miles away since the asking price is a way to keep me informed on pricing should a local tower become available. I think a lot of the other users feel the same way and from the obvious popularity of SALES, its one of the more useful features of the PBBS system.

73 de Jack

4. Re: PBBSSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque... Stinkin' PBBS Stinkin PBBS Why not a solid PBBS

From: Adrian Godwin <agodwin@acorn.co.uk>
Date: Thu, 07 Jul 1994 13:31:16 +0100
To: bbattles@arrrl.org
Cc: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407071231.AA00317@snark.acorn.co.uk>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I think it's an excellent article and hope you'll send it to the RSGB or Ham Radio Today for inclusion in UK magazines as well as QST.

The only fault I could pick was in this section :

>
> In the world of amateur packet radio bulletin boards (PBBSSs),
> however, there are differences that make control and adherence to
> standards difficult to implement. For one thing, open packet
> bulletin traffic isn't carried and categorized in distinctly
> separate "conferences" that a user may conveniently choose to
> read or ignore by simply selecting from a menu. All packet
> bulletins are mixed into a homogenous list that users see
> whenever they log in and request a listing of the day's latest

While I agree with the sentiments, it's not true that you can't choose subjects - the FBB package (and doubtless others) allow you to list and filter bulletins according to the 'To' field in a way related to usenet groups. I feel you should compliment those authors on showing the way ahead!

The problem that remains with this is still user education - there isn't the guidance given (by the PBBS package or the sysops) to encourage users to send their articles with appropriate To: fields - as a result, there is a wide variety of possible headings and no formal structure. This is bad both for readers and senders - the readers have to scan all the group names, looking for a clue to the possible content (and in just a few characters, that's a big problem) and the senders have to try to work out a suitable abbreviation that will get them the audience they want.

-adrian

5. Re: PBBSSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque... Stinkin' PBBS Stinkin PBBS Why not a solid PBBS

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrrl.org>
Date: Thu, 07 Jul 94 14:50:00 EDT
To: Adrian Godwin <agodwin@acorn.co.uk>
Cc: TAPR BBSSIG <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>,
NOS-BBS Mailing List <nos-bbs-request@hydra.carleton.CA>,
TCP-Group <TCP-GROUP@UCSD.EDU>
Message-ID: <2E1C4EB9@arrrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

AG> I think it's an excellent article and hope you'll send it to
AG> the RSGB or Ham Radio Today for inclusion in UK magazines
AG> as well as QST.

Hadn't thought of that, Adrian. But I believe the usual technique
is for RSGB and other mags to call us if they want to reprint something
from an ARRL publication.

AG> The only fault I could pick was in this section :

BB>> In the world of amateur packet radio bulletin boards (PBBSSs), however,
BB>> there are differences that make control and adherence to standards
BB>> difficult to implement. For one thing, open packet bulletin traffic
BB>> isn't carried and categorized in distinctly separate "conferences"
BB>> that a user may conveniently choose to read or ignore by simply
BB>> selecting from a menu. All packet bulletins are mixed into a
BB>> homogenous list that users see whenever they log in and request a
BB>> listing of the day's latest

AG> Although I agree with the sentiments, it's not true that you can't
AG> choose subjects--the FBB package (and doubtless others) allow you to
AG> list and filter bulletins according to the 'To' field in a way
AG> related to Usenet groups. I feel you should compliment those authors
AG> on showing the way ahead!

True, I have seen that in the latest version of MSYS, myself. But it's
still got a way to go.

AG> The problem that remains with this is still user education--there
AG> isn't the guidance given (by the PBBS package or the SysOps) to
AG> encourage users to send their articles with appropriate To:
AG> fields--as a result, there's a wide variety of possible headings
AG> and no formal structure. This is bad for readers and senders--the
AG> readers have to scan all the group names, looking for a clue to
AG> the possible content (and in just a few characters, that's a big
AG> problem) and the senders have to try to work out a suitable
AG> abbreviation that will get them the audience they want.

Say, how about only permitting a set of a couple of dozen predefined
non-call sign addresses, many "permanently" mapped to "@??" destinations?

Thanks for your comments!

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10	I	Internet	bbattles@arrrl.org	I	"Radio amateurs
QST Features Editor	I	Compu\$erve	70007,3373	I	do it with high
ARRL HQ	I	MCI Mail	215-5052	I	frequency"
Newington, CT USA	I				
Tel 203-666-1541	I	Amprnet	ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org		[44.88.2.43]
Fax 203-665-7531	I	AX.25 packet	WS10 @ W1EDH.CT.USA.NA		
BBS 203-666-0578					

COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS
AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

6. Re: PBBSSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque...

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
Date: Thu, 07 Jul 1994 15:22:25 -0600
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <01HEFH52BS7M95NSRZ@tntech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

A few comments:

PBBs suffer from a confusion of personal mail (one-to-one messages) from bulletins (one-to-many messages). This problem has been solved a long time ago on the Internet by separating mail (SMTP/POP3) and news (NNTP). How about building these concepts into the PBBs user interface? There should be an established hierarchy of news groups (which is given a special top-level name to differentiate it from the "real" news hierarchy) and, of course, there should be the equivalent to "alt" for those who just can't deal with organization. This would allow a system for classification of messages and a sensible distribution policy (e.g., for sale could be fairly insistent that messages remain relatively local).

PBBs also do not support any form of priority messages. How can one even think of using packet for emergency communications (isn't that one of the reasons for the existence of ham radio?) with a system that might put an emergency message at the end of a queue full of messages about the latest theory of UFOs abducting the Trilateral Commission?

Bringing TCP/IP to the users would be a nice thing to do. SMTP/POP3 and NNTP would be great services to run over the air. We have the technology. Coupled with a good converse system this would fulfill most of the user needs. But TCP/IP and PBBs mail does not get along very well yet. We need to address the addressing problem (pardon the pun) before these work well together. Do we want to continue to run two parallel networks (PBBs and TCP/IP) or do we want to merge them together? The way we address mail depends on the answer to this question.

What about the user who cannot or doesn't want to run TCP/IP? The PBBs is still needed. We have the technology.

Faster speeds...we have the technology.

I think that our problem is not technical but organizational. We're still arguing, last I knew, about NA vs. NOAM!

Jeff, k9ja

+-+

Jeffrey Austen		Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@tntech.edu		Box 5004
(615) 372-3485		Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

7. Re: PBBs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junk

From: "Young, Gregory" <GYoung@ubmede.buffalo.edu>
Date: Thu, 07 Jul 94 18:04:00 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <2E1CA621@ubmed.buffalo.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

We are in business to provide a service to amateur radio.. aren't we? If our users desire to read FORSALE@USA, so be it. If they want to talk about the President, or OJ Simpson, so what? They do on repeaters, we don't censor that, do we?

Too much overhead, to the system? Then let's improve the system guys. I have had a 9600 baud user port, following WA0PTV's lead, for several YEARS. It took quite a while to catch on, but with the files available for downloading here, it's very busy now. The network here is only 19.2K, so we need to look, in our area, to improve the system, not filter out what we feel is inappropriate. So we will spend \$50 for an ethernet card, and \$? for either a 900 meg plug and play LAN data transceiver, or get energetic, and try building 10Meg transceivers. Either way our aim is for 1Meg/sec data transfers, something that uses existing technology, nothing fancy.

With those transfer rates, who cares about AX.25 vs TCP/IP. We will be sending our gifs, digital voice, etc, while people are still crying about about 4sale, etc!

73, Greg, KE2VW

8. Re: PBBs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junk... Stinkin' PBBs Stinkin

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Fri, 8 Jul 1994 11:40:04 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199407080140.LAA22896@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 1:55 PM 7/7/94 -0500, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:

- > choose subjects - the FBB package (and doubtless others) allow
- > you to list and filter bulletins according to the 'To' field
- > in a way related to usenet groups. I feel you should compliment
- > those authors on showing the way ahead!

It doesn't get used except by the minority of interested Amateurs who like learning what TO fields and FROM Fields are in common use. The majority of my users have got as far as LL 10 (back when I was running MBL 2.04) and that's where they have stayed. I've put out brochures and pamphlets on how to use the BBS. I've done lectures at the local packet meetings and the local WIA divisional meetings. It does bugger all good.

- > The problem that remains with this is still user education - there
- > isn't the guidance given (by the PBBS package or the sysops) to
- > encourage users to send their articles with appropriate To:
- > fields - as a result, there is a wide variety of possible
- > headings and no formal structure. This is bad both for readers
- > and senders - the readers have to scan all the group names, looking
- > for a clue to the possible content (and in just a few characters,
- > that's a big problem) and the senders have to try to work out
- > a suitable abbreviation that will get them the audience they want.

Since the users work out the suitable abbreviations there is no standardisation on them so you can't use standard commands to retrieve them. User education will NOT solve the problem of individual Amateurs concocting their own abbreviations.

We have to throw the users into a mechanism where, by default, the blob list of bulletins is broken up into topics and ENFORCE posting back into that list of topics.

NOS has the concept of areas which most sysops setup by default and this is a good start but the users still have to make up some abbreviation for the TO: field and then post it (usually to the wrong distribution).

The user is still seeing much the same interface that was designed for the BBS forwarding system. Optional filters and group commands are ignored by the unwashed masses as being too hard. Well, filters are too hard! Setting up areas or groups is the right thing to do but it must be the default, not an option as the users do not want to learn something new.

As far as Mr Joe Ham is concerned the problem is far too many messages and those damn sysops should cut down the junk that he has to scan through. Breaking up the bulletins into areas would help a great deal.

<soapbox mode off>

Carl.

--

Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!" '+61 6 289 8443'
makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Internet) / vk1kcm@vk1kcm.act.ans.oc (Packet Radio)
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

9. Re: PBBSSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junk

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Fri, 8 Jul 1994 12:27:00 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199407080227.MAA25819@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 8:09 PM 7/7/94 -0500, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:

- > We are in business to provide a service to amateur radio.. aren't we? If our
- > users desire to read FORSALE@USA, so be it. If they want to talk about the
- > President, or OJ Simpson, so what? They do on repeaters, we don't censor
- > that, do we?

I don't know about the US but here in Australia there are quite specific rules on what we can and can't say over Amateur Radio. For Sale items are NOT permitted so we don't have the problems that seem to be killing the US part of the network.

- > Too much overhead, to the system? Then let's improve the system guys. I have

> had a 9600 baud user port, following WA0PTV's lead, for several YEARS. It

I've had a HAPN 4800 baud port for years too. It's not the access speed that is the problem here, nor is it the way the information is presented and entered. It's the user interface that needs substantial work.

We can already transfer enough bulletins using existing links to make reading and filtering through the mail a chore. We are at the point where the faster links ARE appearing and we now have to deal with the user interface and presentation issues. The original W0RLI BBS interface of 1984??? is STILL the most common interface while the amount of traffic is considerably greater. It does the original design credit that it has lasted this long but it is now showing it's age.

It's time to take a good look at how we want to structure the megabytes of information that we are carrying.

Carl.

(Yes I know, the answer is in RFC-1036 but I'd rather not make this a religious war just yet.)

--

Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!" '+61 6 289 8443'
makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Internet) / vk1kcm@vk1kcm.act.aus.oc (Packet Radio)
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

10. Re: PBBs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque... Stinkin' PBBS Stinkin

From: Adrian Godwin <agodwin@acorn.co.uk>
Date: Fri, 08 Jul 1994 12:41:47 +0100
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407081141.AA01568@snark.acorn.co.uk>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)

>

> We have to throw the users into a mechanism where, by default, the blob
> list of bulletins is broken up into topics and ENFORCE posting back into
> that list of topics.
>

I agree - and as Brian indicated, it's best done at the point of entry to the system rather than by accepting anything and then expecting sysops to constantly maintain lists of redirections to the fixed groups.

There's also a free-speech issue here which becomes more complex the more you look into it and discover the ramifications (Does a sysop still have the right to censorship if frequency planning has ensured that he has a monopoly? If subjects are heavily structured, does that increase the ease with which a heavy-handed person in a position of some power can interpret legal requirements unnecessarily strictly?)

So I think that if the user is forced to enter his bulletin into a fixed number of subject groups, this should be tempered with a relatively easy ability to 'create' a new group. Such a new group should not require the manual intervention of every sysop on the system unless they each wish to have that obligation.

A suggestion, with elements taken from both BBSs and Usenet newsreaders :

Given an addressee, the system compares it with a list of known topics and misspellings or common aliases for those topics. If the addressee matches directly, no problem. If the addressee matches an alias (say SALE instead of FORSALE), the redirection is pointed out.

Before accepting a message intended for a given group, the user should be prompted with the description of that group and it's distribution, and asked to ensure that it's appropriate.

If there is no appropriate group, the user has to jump through some extra hoops : he can't just stuff his message into the void. Perhaps he has to enter a description of the group he wants, and the resulting group enters an area that doesn't have to be presented automatically to the normal users (but might eventually be promoted there), a bit like a more transparent version of the 'alt' hierarchy. Perhaps he has to submit his request to the sysop, who might have a better view of what other new groups are on their way through this trial world

to the standard view.

A sample session (bertie ham uses upper case) :

```
To>      RADIOSALES@GBR
Subject> RADIO FOR SALE
Message> HI GUYS I'VE GOT THIS BROKEN ARMY RADIO TO DITCH.
        I WANT #5 FOR IT AND YOU'LL NEED TO BRING A LORRY.
        BERTIE@RUTLANDBBS
        /EX
```

"RADIOSALES" isn't a topic that's known here : if you use that, nobody's going to read your bulletin. Did you want to send it to "FORSALE" instead ? FORSALES here are only sent around the county.

Using "FORSALE@RUTLAND" will send your bulletin to :
FORSALE : Articles for sale (non-commercial transactions only)
RUTLAND : The bulletin will be passed to every BBS in Rutland

To FORSALE@RUTLAND Y/N> Y

Done. What next ? >

(please do your own translations into local dialect)

Just to try another side to the argument though, there's a noticeable problem with Usenet in that groups are constantly being split to keep the traffic levels reasonable. Some people have started to say that this is wrong : the ultimate end will be a need to read thousands of tiny specialist groups, and that we should really be developing highly intelligent filters instead. I think we're a long way from that, and the gap would have to be made up by excessively complicated filter setup, (and I accept Carl's point that present users aren't prepared to set up even a simple filter) but it's something to keep in mind. Maybe the structure of the groups should be set by the users (each user with his own view) rather than by the system ..

-adrian

11. Re: PBBSSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junq

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrrl.org>
Date: Fri, 08 Jul 94 09:17:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E1D5BD4@arrrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
>> From: "Young, Gregory" <GYoung@ubmede.buffalo.edu>
>> Subject: Re: PBBSSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junq
>> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
>> Date: Thu, 07 Jul 94 18:04:00 PDT
```

```
>> We're in business to provide a service to Amateur Radio.. aren't we? If
our users desire to read
>> FORSALE@USA, so be it. If they want to talk about the President, or OJ
Simpson, so what?
>> They do on repeaters, we don't censor that, do we?
```

My point is simply that a lot of @USBBS bulletins will entirely serve their purpose if posted to a narrow network, such as (in New England) @NEBBS or (in Connecticut) @CTBBS. If it's a topic that's generic enough for people nationwide to really want to read, so be it. But I can virtually guarantee that no one more than 300-400 miles away will care (or get it in time to buy it, if the deal's any good)

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10	I	Internet	bbattles@arrrl.org	I	"Radio amateurs
QST Features Editor	I	CompuServe	70007,3373	I	do it with high
ARRL HQ	I	MCI Mail	215-5052	I	frequency"
Newington, CT USA	I				
Tel 203-666-1541	I	Amprnet	ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org [44.88.2.43]		
Fax 203-665-7531	I	AX.25 packet	WS10 @ W1EDH.CT.USA.NA		
BBS 203-666-0578					

COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS
AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

12. Re: PBBSSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS, etc

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arri.org>
Date: Fri, 08 Jul 94 14:47:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E1D9C3C@arri.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>> From: Adrian Godwin <agodwin@acorn.co.uk>
>> Subject: Re: PBBSSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque... Stinkin' PBBS
Stinkin
>> Date: Fri, 08 Jul 1994 12:41:47 +0100

>> From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
>>
>> We have to throw the users into a mechanism where, by default, the blob
list of bulletins is
>>broken up into topics and ENFORCE posting back into that list of topics.

> I agree--and as Brian indicated, it's best done at the point of entry to
the system, rather
> than by accepting anything and then expecting SysOps to constantly
maintain lists of
> redirections to the fixed groups.

> There's also a free-speech issue here which becomes more complex the more
you
> look into it and discover the ramifications (Does a SysOp still have the
right to censorship
> if frequency planning has ensured that he has a monopoly? [stuff deleted])

Adrian, things may be different in the UK, but over h'yar in the ol' US of
A, there ain't no
such thing as free speech on a PBBS in the sense you seem to imply. In other
words, no
SysOp is considered a commercial common carrier, and no ham has to let any
other ham
talk through his radio station. Never has and never will (presumably!).

The reason PBBS SysOps allow friends and strangers to post and forward
messages using
their stations is because we amateurs generally tend to trust and try to
cooperate with anyone
who has a legitimate call sign. (We all be bruddahs and sistahs, bro!) But
if I had a PBBS up
and decided that John Doe, WX1XX, was posting stoopid things that could
cause me and/or
him to get (A) Busted by the FCC, (B) Sued for libel, or (C) Flamed by the
entire network...well,
I think I'd do the same as a voice repeater owner and (first) politely
request that Mr Doe take
his keyboard elsewhere. If he kept it up, I'd place him in my "BUDLIST."
(Sayonara!)

If he whined about Freedom of Speech, I'd respond that I was exercising my
responsibility
and right to follow the laws as I saw 'em and that he's just as free as I am
to open up his own PBBS.

> So I think if the user is forced to enter his bulletin into a fixed number
of subject groups, this should
> be tempered with a relatively easy ability to 'create' a new group...[more
deleted]

Good point. Like it or not, if a chap wishes to start an on-air badminton
match (whacking a
glob of feathers back and forth over the Net) relating to something timely
or topical, such as
O. J. Simpson or the World Cup soccer (futbol) tournament, there shouldn't
be a 6-month RFC
period and other bureaucratic bullshit to bog everyone down.

> A suggestion, with elements taken from BBSs and Usenet newsreaders :

> Given an addressee, the system compares it with a list of known topics and
misspellings or
> common aliases for those topics. If the addressee matches directly, no
problem. If the
> addressee matches an alias (say SALE instead of FORSALE), the redirection
is pointed out.

>Before accepting a message intended for a given group, the user should be prompted with
> the description of that group and its distribution, and asked to ensure that it's appropriate.

That's one idea I mentioned. Does any current PBBS (or TCP/IP) software provide for this? Would it be a lot of work to add? Will anyone who writes PBBS software bother? Will SysOps demand it?

[even more stuff deleted]

I clipped out the stuff about perhaps having SysOps determine what might be appropriate "new" categories because I'm not so sure that's necessary or desirable.

> A sample session (bertie ham uses upper case) :

```
> To>      RADIOSALES@GBR
> Subject> RADIO FOR SALE
> Message> HI GUYS I'VE GOT THIS BROKEN ARMY RADIO TO DITCH.
> I WANT #5 FOR IT AND YOU'LL NEED TO BRING A LORRY.
>
>      BERTIE@RUTLANDBBS
>      /EX
>
> "RADIOSALES" isn't a topic that's known here : if you use that, nobody's
going to
> read your bulletin. Did you want to send it to "FORSALE" instead? FORSALES
here
> are only sent around the county.
> Using "FORSALE@RUTLAND" will send your bulletin to: FORSALE: Articles for
> sale (noncommercial transactions only) RUTLAND: The bulletin will be
passed to
> every PBBS in Rutland
>
> To FORSALE@RUTLAND Y/N> Y
>
> Done. What next ? >
```

Now this would be a dandy way of doing things. And if *ALL* PBBSs followed a similar convention, those @USBBS bulletins that fill up every PBBS would prolly be cut in half in no time. Most SysOps wouldn't have to monitor a *lot* of posted mail for these kinds of messages, anyway, because although any given local VHF PBBS may *carry* 200-300 @USBBS bulletins, only a fraction of them are originated at that PBBS. It's not as though a SysOp who chose to manual "weed the garden" would be faced with hundreds of @USBBS messages a day...because most of them would stop coming from further upstream.

```
> Just to try another side to the argument though, there's a noticeable
problem with Usenet
> in that groups are constantly being split to keep the traffic levels
reasonable. Some people
> have started to say that this is wrong: the ultimate end will be a need to
read thousands of
> tiny specialist groups, and that we should really be developing highly
intelligent filters
> instead. I think we're a long way from that and the gap would have to be
made up by
> excessively complicated filter setup (and I accept Carl's point that
present users aren't
> prepared to set up even a simple filter), but it's something to keep in
mind. Maybe the
> structure of the groups should be set by the users (each user with his own
view), rather
> than by the system ..
```

Hmmm...jeez, aren't there a whole LOT of amateurs around who are crackerjack programmers but don't feel like reinventing the AX.25 PBBS or bumbling around in

yet another sub-sub-sub-revision of NOS? Couldn't one or two of these guys whip up a simple PBBS user terminal program (simple; not like LAN-LINK, etc) that the user could easily fill in a bunch of "WANT" and "DON'T WANT" address-PBBS-subject fields, then maybe tell it the PBBS's call sign and what time to log on, then let it take care of things from there?

Yeah, maybe it'd just be easier to run NOS and just ask someone to forward certain things, but you can still miss ad hoc and unexpectedly interesting stuff. If I had the imaginary software I described above (mainly a one-floppy, 8088 or better gizmo), I could tell it to ignore bulletins that say SALE anywhere and don't come from a W1-district call sign; to also ignore any that say RECIPE, HUMOR, PROP, DX, etc, but to grab every bulletin that shows the words EXAM, TCP/IP, MODS and CLUB...mixed or matched by numerals in the senders' call signs, the @ field, etc.

(Psst...I know US hams can have call signs that don't reflect their current areas of residence, but the majority do and maybe that'd be sufficient to please me. If I wrote more ambitious imaginary software, maybe I'd specifically make it so a user could choose call signs whose messages it would always ignore or always download, etc. Lotsa Boolean potential there, 0 Code Weenies! Have a peek at WinRules for Microsoft Mail sometime!)

Have fun chewing on them thoughts over the weekend... 8-)

CUL ES 73 DE BB

Brian Battles, WS10
Features Editor, QST Magazine, ARRL HQ
Paquet: ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

13. Re: PBBSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS, etc

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Mon, 11 Jul 1994 12:19:17 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199407110219.MAA13112@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 3:25 PM 8/7/94 -0500, "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org> wrote:

> That's one idea I mentioned. Does any current PBBS (or TCP/IP) software
> provide for
> this? Would it be a lot of work to add? Will anyone who writes PBBS software
> bother? Will
> SysOps demand it?

I believe aa4re and f6fbb (and probably the others) can reject bulletins from users based on the addressing. I think aa4re can even give them a custom message.

> I clipped out the stuff about perhaps having SysOps determine what might
> be appropriate
> "new" categories because I'm not so sure that's necessary or desirable.

I think it's necessary. It's the sysops who are the final arbiters of what information they will carry.

Carl.

--

Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!" '+61 6 289 8443'
makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Internet) / vk1kcm@vk1kcm.act.aus.oc (Packet Radio)
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

14. Re: PBBSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque... Stinkin' PBBS Stinkin'

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Mon, 11 Jul 1994 12:19:09 +1000

To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199407110219.MAA13097@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 11:15 AM 8/7/94 -0500, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:

> There's also a free-speech issue here which becomes more complex the
> more you look into it and discover the ramifications (Does a sysop
> still have the right to censorship if frequency planning has ensured
> that he has a monopoly ? If subjects are heavily structured, does
> that increase the ease with which a heavy-handed person in a position
> of some power can interpret legal requirements unnecessarily strictly ?)

Hmmm. You must have *real* interesting laws regarding BBSs in the UK. In Australia the BBS is a private station and the Sysop can refuse or delete messages as they please. They are also under no obligation to offer service to anyone.

> So I think that if the user is forced to enter his bulletin into a
> fixed number of subject groups, this should be tempered with a relatively
> easy ability to 'create' a new group. Such a new group should not

You don't want to make it too easy although I agree that the group definition should be automatic (similar to a netnews addgroup message).

> A suggestion, with elements taken from both BBSs and Usenet newsreaders :

> Given an addressee, the system compares it with a list of known topics
> and misspellings or common aliases for those topics. If the addressee
> matches directly, no problem. If the addressee matches an alias (say
> SALE instead of FORSALE), the redirection is pointed out.

No. The user still has to know and type in a destination. The command to post a message should have NO qualifiers. (See my modified example below)

> A sample session (bertie ham uses upper case) :

G9XYZ BBS Area: ampr.gbr.sales 10247 unread articles
Commands: (P)ost (R)ead (D)elele (S)earch (A)rea (B)ye (M)ain Menu

POST

ampr.gbr.sales is for articles selling items that would be relevant throughout Great Britain.

Enter a short description of the article. Type Ctrl-A to abort.
Subject:
RADIO FOR SALE

Please enter the article.
Type Ctrl-Z to exit. Ctrl-A to abort. Ctrl-E to edit.
Message:
HI GUYS I'VE GOT THIS BROKEN ARMY RADIO TO DITCH.
I WANT #5 FOR IT AND YOU'LL NEED TO BRING A LORRY.
BERTIE@RUTLANDBBS
^Z

Are you happy with this article? (Y/n): Y
Article posted.

G9XYZ BBS Area: ampr.gbr.sales 10248 unread articles
Commands: (P)ost (R)ead (D)elele (S)earch (A)rea (B)ye (M)ain Menu

The above could easily be implemented within the existing BBS structure.

> Maybe the structure of the groups should be set by the users (each
> user with his own view) rather than by the system ..

Having your own view is something for the intelligent clients.

Carl.

--
Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!" '+61 6 289 8443'
makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Internet) / vk1kcm@vk1kcm.act.oz.au (Packet Radio)
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";

but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

15. Armchair Participation

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 10 Jul 94 22:58:01 CDT
To: bbssig
Message-ID: <9407110358.AA106510@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

There has been some rather intense activity on the packet network recently with comments about hierarchical forwarding. This should be of interest to many who have been either participating in the BBS SIG or just 'reading the mail.' If you are 'here' chances are you are more than casually involved in BBS operation. Further, chances are high that you would like to see the continued advancement of store-and-forward operation that makes digital communications so appealing.

I had some discussion with Shelton McAnelly KD5SL by phone this morning and our conversation has prompted me to assemble a few thoughts to share with you:

1. A paper on the efforts (to-date and intentions for the future) of the TAPR BBS SIG has been submitted for publication and will be presented at the upcoming ARRL National Digital Conference.
2. The promotion of a set of 'standards' (or 'guidelines,' if the word 'standards' bugs you) will have more credibility if it has the support of a respected organization like TAPR.
3. It hasn't been easy getting the word out that BBS SIG exists. If you or someone you know has an interest in participating in a group effort to tackle some of the issues that impede progress of the amateur digital network, pass the word about the TAPR BBS SIG. The SIG will continue to be a forum for sober and logical discussion of how BBS operations might be improved for all. The result of the exchanges and coincidental off-line work will be TAPR-endorsed (hopefully other organizations will add their endorsement, too) guidelines for more efficient BBS operation, forwarding, and software development.
4. It's easy for individuals to make pronouncements from the comfort of their executive desk chairs sitting at their computers (hmmm, I'd better be careful; I'm sitting in a comfortable executive desk chair...). It's much harder for people to work together, compromise, and be willing to look at matters with as much logic as possible. It also takes a lot longer to do things this way and requires folks to spend time and money to get together in person or on the phone. The TAPR BBS meetings have been a chance for people to begin meaningful dialogs. They have also been opportunities for people to realize that agreeing on many matters isn't as impossible as some might think or claim it to be. Some conclusions and recommendations from the meetings and efforts that have taken place so far will be presented at the upcoming Digital Conference in Minneapolis with some of the basics to be released for consideration beforehand. Watch BBSSIG over the next several weeks. You are encouraged to thoughtfully mull this stuff over and PARTICIPATE. If you CAN attend the Digital Conference, PLEASE DO SO.
5. While there will be some folks who prefer anarchy to reason and they will attempt to discredit the efforts of folks who try to make things more fun and more efficient, it's best to ignore them. They usually go away if no one gives them any attention. In the unlikely event they should prevail in the long haul, you'll have the respect of your peers for having tried.
6. I've been encouraged by some of the thoughtful discussion that has arisen on the BBS SIG recently. I want to see more! One never realizes how this sort of activity can influence the course of events.
7. Post a msg on the BBSSIG if you are planning to attend the Digital Conference in Minneapolis next month. With two 'in-person' BBS SIG meetings (at Tuscon in March and Dayton in April) behind us, there has been enough input to formulate a basic agenda for future meetings. Tucson was okay. Dayton was better. I suspect Minneapolis will be a little better still. If

there is enough interest and schedules permit it, there could be a BBS SIG at the upcoming Southwest Divisional hamfest in San Diego. Where else would you like to see in-person SIG meetings? If you're on the events committee for your regional hamfest and think you would have at least 35 BBS sysops commit to a meeting, let me hear from you.

More to follow...

73 de Dave Wolf W05H
Chairman of the TAPR BBS SIG
Packet: W05H@W05H.#DFW.TX.USA.NOAM
Internet: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

16. Re: PBBSs, TCP/IP, @USBBS and other junque... Stinkin' PBBS Stinkin

From: Adrian Godwin <agodwin@acorn.co.uk>
Date: Tue, 12 Jul 1994 16:41:58 +0100
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407121541.AA04060@snark.acorn.co.uk>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
>
> Hmmm. You must have *real* interesting laws regarding BBSs in the UK. In
> Australia the BBS is a private station and the Sysop can refuse or delete
> messages as they please. They are also under no obligation to offer
> service to anyone.

No, it's much the same here : Sysop believes it's his board and users believe it's a public right :-). That's not the point I was making, though, sorry.

The legal position is slightly ambiguous : as far as I can recall (and one of the few other UK readers might be able to correct me) the only prosecutions we've had were against specific users for their postings, not against sysops who carried illegal traffic from elsewhere.

On the moral side, I think most sysops would like to carry everything, but feel some items should be removed for their own or other's sake. I.e. the default is to carry an article rather than to drop it. No problem so far .. I do support a sysop's individual right to full control over what passes through his system.

As an example, in the UK we aren't allowed to use amateur radio for commercial purposes. That's about as far as the law goes : but it gets interpreted in lots of different ways, especially with respect to private sales of radio gear. Some would regard a commercial transaction only as one where a dealer is involved .. but at what point does someone who sells a piece of radio kit (perhaps for more than he bought it, after he spent some time refurbishing it) become a dealer ? Similarly, some regard money as the important point .. so in some areas it's acceptable to offer equipment 'for swap' but not 'for sale'.

All this is fine when sysops and BBSs themselves are uncontrolled : if a user feels a particular sysop interprets the law rather more strictly than is necessary, he can generally find another BBS with different ideas.

However, sysops tend not to exist in a vacuum. They often operate within the recommendations of other bodies for purposes such as frequency planning and even licensing. The bodies who perform these functions interpret the law themselves, and the decisions they come to may be at variance with a significant number of users and sysops.

If we permit postings only to a nationally-agreed set of topics, the selection of those topics is naturally one that all sysops and other representatives agree to : there's little point in permitting a subject that only some sysops are prepared to carry, so the permitted set of possible postings is that of the most strict interpretation of the law.

I appreciate that postings can be made off-topic : forsales can be posted to a group that is intended for repairs, say - but it seems to me to be poor design to allow a safety valve that operates by using the system wrongly. Much better to build anarchy into the system, such that the set of possible posting subjects is built by individual users and sysops rather than imposed by committees and national organizations. Sadly, such national organizations are not always regarded as representative of the users who make them up.

Having (I hope) explained my point better, I see that both Carl and

Brian seem to agree that the creation of groups should be bottom-up rather than top-down .. so perhaps you share my concern, really :-).

```
> No. The user still has to know and type in a destination. The command to
> post a message should have NO qualifiers. (See my modified example below)
>
> > A sample session (bertie ham uses upper case) :
>
> G9XYZ BBS Area: ampr.gbr.sales 10247 unread articles
> Commands: (P)ost (R)ead (D)elete (S)earch (A)rea (B)ye (M)ain Menu
```

That's certainly one way of doing it. It does mean that the operation you can perform depends very heavily on the current state of the BBS system, which I find a less convenient method of working - I think this is the religious argument for and against modeless interfaces again.

Personally, I prefer that a command (or mouse-click, or whatever) should be effective whatever the context. This seems to be more intuitive (see the use of GUIs, hotkeys etc vs. the use of hierarchical menus) even where the current state of the system is clearly announced through a menu shortlist. It's also easier for an intelligent front-end to drive a system that isn't context-sensitive, though intelligent front-ends should not, of course, interact with an interface intended for humans at all.

```
>
> Having your own view is something for the intelligent clients.
```

Yes, but there needn't be any difference between an intelligent client that runs on the BBS and an intelligent client that runs on the user's system. The BBS's user interface is merely the default client - the real server is the database.

-adrian

17. Re: Armchair Participation

```
From: fortney@lcsipdp.litton.com (jim fortney)
Date: Tue, 12 Jul 94 13:51:43 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Cc: bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407122051.AA13550@lcsipdp.litton.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

Dave (and others):

I am planning on attending the Digital Conference in August and will be at the ARRL SWD Convention in San Diego. I do believe that the recent flurry of interest in the definition of Standard Designators is both important and positive. I have worked for several years on this project and believe that a substantial portion of the standards we work to today are the result of the WESTNET BBS designator definition efforts conducted in the late 1980's.

I look forward to continuing those efforts through the TAPR sig.

73 Jim K6IYK @ K6IYK

p.s. - We still seems to have differing definitions for this SIG. Is it "bbssig" or "bbs_sig"?

18. Re: Armchair Participation

```
From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 12 Jul 1994 18:54:43 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <199407122354.SAA17460@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

According to TAPR BBS Special Interest Group:

```
> p.s. - We still seems to have differing definitions for this SIG. Is
> it "bbssig" or "bbs_sig"?
```

Simple.

bbssig@tcet.unt.edu is where mail is sent to.

When mail is received, it is held until the mail process is started. This is to ensure that 1) we don't repost join/unjoin/etc messages to the group and 2) to make sure that there is always enough space in the spool area before executing (have to be a friendly process on the system we use).

Mail is originated from bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu in order to have the bounced messages don't get re-sent out on bbssig. If you pay close attention to the header you will see a reply-to line. If you mailer works to spec, then it should work correctly. If someone does send a message to bbs_sig, like the copy of your message was Jim - I get that message in my e-mail box and then I reply to the user about where to repost their message to.

Hope this helps everyone.

Cheers - Greg

19. Re: Armchair Participation

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Tue, 12 Jul 94 19:15:54 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407130015.AA137901@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> >From: fortney@lcsipdp.litton.com (jim fortney)
> Subject: Re: Armchair Participation
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Tue, 12 Jul 94 13:51:43 PDT
>
> Dave (and others):
>
> I am planning on attending the Digital Conference in August and will be at the
> ARRL SWD Convention in San Diego. I do believe that the recent flurry of
> interest in the definition of Standard Designators is both important and
> positive. I have worked for several years on this project and believe that
> a substantial portion of the standards we work to today are the result of
> the WESTNET BBS designator definition efforts conducted in the late 1980's.
>
> I look forward to continuing those efforts through the TAPR sig.
>
> 73 Jim K6IYK @ K6IYK
>
> p.s. - We still seems to have differing definitions for this SIG. Is
> it "bbssig" or "bbs_sig"?
>
>

Hi Jim! Good to see you on the forum. For those who have joined the SIG subsequent to its inception, Jim gave some valuable input at the TAPR annual meeting where this thing was kicked off several months ago.

It would be helpful to have a copy of the WESTNET BBS designators if you could e-mail them to the SIG, Jim. In fact, if anyone else has sets of 'standards' or 'recommendations' adopted regionally, feel free to e-mail them for all to consider. One of the goals for the SIG is to look at establishing basic of conventions to make digital store-and-forward operation more efficient.

73 and glad that you will be attending the Digi Conference, Jim
Anyone else on-line who has made plans to be there? It's not too late to make arrangements!

Dave W05H

20. ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Wed, 13 Jul 94 10:00:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E23F546@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> ...and glad that you'll be attending the Digi Conference, Jim. Anyone else
>> online who has made plans to be there? It's not too late to make
arrangements!

Unfortunately, QST Asst Managing Editor Kirk Kleinschmidt, NT0Z, has resigned from ARRL HQ and is returning to Minnesota to pursue other interests. But he'll still be a QST contributor, and I hear he plans to cruise down to the Digital Conference to shoot some photos and maybe interview a few key people for a QST piece someplace.

Kirk isn't much of a packeteer, but he's superb photographer. So have your demo projects polished up and shiny, your hair combed, and put fresh tape on your eyeglass frames!

I understand that our new QST Assistant Managing Editor, Steve Ford, WB8IMY, will also be attending. (I think he's traveling because he has family in Ohio, too.)
Wish they were sending me, too! <sigh>

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10	I	Internet	bbattles@arrl.org	I	"Radio amateurs
QST Features Editor	I	Compu\$erve	70007,3373	I	do it with high
ARRL HQ	I	MCI Mail	215-5052	I	frequency"
Newington, CT USA	I				
Tel 203-666-1541	I	Amprnet	ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org	[44.88.2.43]	
Fax 203-665-7531	I	AX.25 packet	WS10 @ W1EDH.CT.USA.NA		
BBS 203-666-0578					

COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS
AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

21. ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Wed, 13 Jul 94 11:34:09 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407131848.AA161263@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

For those who don't keep up with the SYSOP mail on the packet system, there has been a storm of comments raised by John, N6IYA. He attempted to address several issues by taking a vote of all sysops and received only 60 or so answers. He then published the result. Of course, there were lots of howls about the small number voting and attempting to dictate to the rest.

I would hope that the TAPR BBS Sig not fall into the same trap. I was somewhat disappointed when the minutes of the meeting at Dayton were published with the idea that the attendees (40?) were making decisions regarding PBBS operations.

While I think that such face-to-face meetings are important, we must not disenfranchise the sysops who cannot attend.

My personal opinion would be that the number 1 issue facing packet BBS operations is to figure out how to break the stalemate of apathy versus change. We need a process for making changes to the packet system as we know it. If a vast majority of the packet organizations (TAPR, ARRL digital committee, etc) could agree on methodology for proposing changes, accepting comments, and then making a decision, we would be much better off.

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

22. BBS Training

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 13 Jul 1994 15:57:44 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407131526.B12502-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have seen some Russian users of my bbs, a F6FBB version doing things with it I have never seen done before. It seems they are more trained than I am, and I'm the sysop! So it is small wonder that new users just getting on packet have big problems doing much on my bbs.

It is simply put, impossible for a user to get much more than a super-basic training on this capable software. So it seems to me we need to make things easier for our users. Here are some of my ideas:

1. Set up every user to NOT list every file on the bbs. For example set it up so a plain L command lists only files that DO NOT fit in the many established CATAGORIES. Force the user to learn to use the directional L> sale commands. I use the LS xxxx function all the time but seldom do I see others doing it. I showed a user how well LS kep worked listing all files with kep in the title.

2. Get users to file information they find interesting in the file section. Get users to check that section.

3. Set up a file section for local messages. Make it simple to list these files.

I think all this can be done using the current FBB software. The trick is to find time to do it. I want some other FBB sysop's to help me get these things set up and publish how to do it here in the sig. Anyone else interested?
-de karl k5di

23. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 13 Jul 1994 16:14:40 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407131607.C12502-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 13 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Wed, 13 Jul 94 11:34:09 PDT
>
> For those who don't keep up with the SYSOP mail on the packet system,
> there has been a storm of comments raised by John, N6IYA. He
> attempted to address several issues by taking a vote of all sysops and
> received only 60 or so answers. He then published the result. Of
> course, there were lots of howls about the small number voting and
> attempting to dictate to the rest.
>
> I would hope that the TAPR BBS Sig not fall into the same trap. I was

Lots deleted

>
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>
>

I second everything Roy says. And I go 1 step further. Any decisions made by this sig are very limited as well! I have 3,000 packet sysops listed in my lookup file and about 100 are reading this I expect. So it's well to discuss what might be done but not do it until we get the vote of the other bbs sysops. This is best done with a sb sysop@usa message so you share it with users too...hi

I hope Roy as the author of the ever popular AA4RE bbs software will have some ideas on how hard it might be to make changes I put in another message.

-karl k5di

24. BBS Sysop of the year

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 13 Jul 1994 15:32:54 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407131521.A12502-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have known Jim K6IYK for many years as an active and effective packet radio sysop. He has many times checked out the route that traffic moved from all the western USA to each other. He has been a cool head while others were loosing their's. So he should and can be our man in San Diego.

Many sysop's from as far back as Jim goes have burned out and quit the game. But Jim seems to maintain his interest in the bbs network. I understand this because I too maintain a strong interest after just 5 years of BBS sysop work.

So let's give Jim all our best ideas in the time we have.

de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na

25. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Thu, 14 Jul 94 12:07:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E256345@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>

> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference
> Date: Wed, 13 Jul 94 11:34:09 PDT
>

> For those who don't keep up with the SysOp mail on the packet system, there's been a storm of
> comments raised by John, N6IYA. He attempted to address several issues by taking a vote of all
> SysOps and received only 60 or so answers. He then published the result. Of course, there were lots
> of howls about the small number voting and attempting to dictate to the rest.
>

> I hope the TAPR BBS Sig doesn't fall into the same trap...

>> Lots deleted

>> I second everything Roy says. And I go one step further.
>> Any decisions made by this sig are limited as well! I have
>> 3000 packet SysOps listed in my lookup file and about 100
>> read this, I expect. So it's well to discuss what might be
>> done, but not do it until we get the vote of the other PBBS
>> SysOps. This is best done with a sb sysop@usa message so
>> you share it with users too.

Hmmm. Sounds to me as though you'd get a better response rate by posting a bulletin to SYSOP@USA saying that your survey of SysOps showed that they agreed that "X" and therefore, from now on "X" would be done, rather than "Y." *THEN* you'd get a more meaningful sample size for your "real" survey!

--Brian Battles, WS10
QST Features Editor
ARRL HQ

COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS
AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

26. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 14 Jul 1994 14:58:35 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407141405.A27375-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>

> >> I second everything Roy says. And I go one step further.
> >> Any decisions made by this sig are limited as well! I have
> >> 3000 packet SysOps listed in my lookup file and about 100
> >> read this, I expect. So it's well to discuss what might be
> >> done, but not do it until we get the vote of the other PBBS
> >> SysOps. This is best done with a sb sysop@usa message so
> >> you share it with users too.

>

> Hmmm. Sounds to me as though you'd get a better response rate
> by posting a bulletin to SYSOP@USA saying that your survey of
> SysOps showed that they agreed that "X" and therefore, from now
> on "X" would be done, rather than "Y." *THEN* you'd get a more
> meaningful sample size for your "real" survey!

>

> --Brian Battles, WS10
> QST Features Editor
> ARRL HQ

Brian if this was 1936 and my name was Stalin, your system would work fine. I say do x or you die, and carry on like he did...hi

Seriously I don't think the 100 we have here are as likely to come up with good ideas as the thousands out there. So I think we need to decide whats best from our view and then send it out for comment. OH well better spend the time getting good ideas, not answering mail.

27. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: makin@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 1994 12:24:11 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>

Message-ID: <199407150224.MAA14242@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 12:40 AM 14/7/94 -0500, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:

> vote of the other bbs sysops. This is best done with a sb sysop@usa
> message so you share it with users too...hi

If it has world wide value send it @ww. If it's only for the USA then send it @usa.

Most of this discussion really does have world wide implications. That's why I'm participating in this and the netsig lists. What is done in the US effects us out here in the southern hemisphere as well so keep your thinking global.

Carl.

--
Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

28. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Thu, 14 Jul 1994 22:35:01 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Cc: bbattles@arrl.org
Message-ID: <9407142235.aa16981@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
> Subject: Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference
> To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 14 Jul 94 12:07:00 EDT
>
>
> >> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
>
> >> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> >> Subject: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference
> >> Date: Wed, 13 Jul 94 11:34:09 PDT
> >
> >> For those who don't keep up with the SysOp mail on the packet system,
> there's been a storm of
> >> comments raised by John, N6IYA. He attempted to address several issues by
> taking a vote of all
> >> SysOps and received only 60 or so answers. He then published the result.
> Of course, there were lots
> >> of howls about the small number voting and attempting to dictate to the
> rest.
> >
> >> I hope the TAPR BBS Sig doesn't fall into the same trap...
>
> >> Lots deleted
>
> >> I second everything Roy says. And I go one step further.
> >> Any decisions made by this sig are limited as well! I have
> >> 3000 packet SysOps listed in my lookup file and about 100
> >> read this, I expect. So it's well to discuss what might be
> >> done, but not do it until we get the vote of the other PBBS
> >> SysOps. This is best done with a sb sysop@usa message so
> >> you share it with users too.
>
> Hmmm. Sounds to me as though you'd get a better response rate
> by posting a bulletin to SYSOP@USA saying that your survey of
> SysOps showed that they agreed that "X" and therefore, from now
> on "X" would be done, rather than "Y." *THEN* you'd get a more
> meaningful sample size for your "real" survey!
>
> --Brian Battles, W510
> QST Features Editor
> ARRL HQ
>
> _____
> _____
> COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS

> AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.
>
Brian , I am most gald to see someone from the ARRL comment and then
state it's his personal remarks. A real person with some thoughts.
I am gald to see it. I have seen some mail reflectors which MANY know
that ARRL employees are on, but NEVER comment. sad. Tnx for your
thoughts. 73 Robert WB5CRG

29. ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Thu, 14 Jul 94 23:16:02 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407150622.AA190286@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ref: Your note of Thu, 14 Jul 94 23:13:44 CDT

The problem with taking votes via "SB SYSOP" is just what N6IYA found.
He sent out a bulletin to all SYSOPS as sell as 1200 messages to
individual sysops. Result was 60+ responses. When he published his
results, people screamed bloody murder because 60+ people can't speak
for everyone.

Please ready the N6IYA saga and current messages floating around on
packet. I don't have a complete copy or I would post it here.

Roy

30. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: djkd@dirku.demon.co.uk (Dirk-Jan Koopman)
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 1994 08:13:57 +0200 (BST)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <m0q0hT4-0004gBC@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'm not sure how matters to do with sysop voting have come to have this
title but to carry on the thread....

I would like to be slightly contentious and say that there are probably
only a few percent of sysops that feel sufficiently strongly about any
issue to actual stuff fingers on keyboard and vote.

Further, I would say that if this contention is actually true, the fact
that you get a poll of a few percent is largely irrelevant if the vote
results in a clear cut decision.

The chances are the rest of us will go along with it (anything for a
quiet life (honest, this is a real fact not a :-)).

We, in the UK have tried a balloting system (by post!!!!) and sysop
meetings and there are always moans and groans about whether it is fair
or not - in either case it is always a SMALL, SELF SELECTING few who
(could be bothered to) participate. Invariably, after any decision is
made (especially if it actually requires someone to stick fingers on
keyboard and (lord help us) alter some configuration or other) there is
a (usually much smaller) self selecting group (or vociferous individual
(usually)) who object and tell everybody about it.

Now I wouldn't go as far as saying ignore the objections, but if all the
people who agree on doing something - do it - AND it works out as being
useful or interesting, then the rest will slowly take it up. Otherwise
it will simply fall by the wayside.

Let's have debate - but then let's actually DO SOMETHING (eventually).

73 Dirk G1TLH

31. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 94 8:28:42 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407151328.AA193419@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> >From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>


```

> Date: Thu, 14 Jul 1994 14:58:35 -0600 (MDT)
>
>
> >> I second everything Roy says. And I go one step further.
> >> Any decisions made by this sig are limited as well! I have
> >> 3000 packet SysOps listed in my lookup file and about 100
> >> read this, I expect. So it's well to discuss what might be
> >> done, but not do it until we get the vote of the other PBBS
> >> SysOps. This is best done with a sb sysop@usa message so
> >> you share it with users too.
>
> Hmmm. Sounds to me as though you'd get a better response rate
> by posting a bulletin to SYSOP@USA saying that your survey of
> SysOps showed that they agreed that "X" and therefore, from now
> on "X" would be done, rather than "Y." *THEN* you'd get a more
> meaningful sample size for your "real" survey!
>
> --Brian Battles, WS10
> QST Features Editor
> ARRL HQ
> Brian if this was 1936 and my name was Stalin, your system would
> work fine. I say do x or you die, and carry on like he did...hi
>
> Seriously I don't think the 100 we have here are as likely to
> come up with good ideas as the thousands out there. So I think we need to
> decide whats best from our view and then send it out for comment. OH
> well better spend the time getting good ideas, not answering mail.
>
>
>
The idea of having the TAPR SIGs is to avoid the histrionics found on
the unmoderated packet network. Logic, simplicity and consistency are
not qualities that generally go along with decisions made by the
"masses." Emotion is the number one factor that people respond with.

Plus, consider the experience level of the people that make the effort
to participate in a SIG, attend conferences, get on the phone and
discuss issues with others and so forth.

A small group dictating to the rest of the community? That's what
standards setting is, in a way. You can flower it up by saying that you
have a group of seasoned 'experts' using all of their experience and
wisdom in setting conventions that result in efficiency. It's a
benevolent dictatorship in most cases, too; not a group acting in a
manner that will benefit themselves (other than an ego boost for having
participated in the process).

So it has been with virtually all of the standards and protocols we
benefit from. Imagine what kluge you'd get if you put the standard for
an inch up to everone who wanted to use a ruler! A stretch maybe, but
not too big a stretch.

```

To get to the main point: setting up some conventions that will make it easier for sysops to set up the forwarding sections of their BBS software is the initial substantive goal of the BBS SIG. Most people will likely appreciate the efforts of a thoughtful few. A handful of folks who find it easier to criticize than participate are likely to discredit themselves rather than what they criticize. The SIG will continue to be open to those who wish to go to the trouble to participate (on this forum, add their 'two cents worth' by other to encourage the participation of BBS software developers whose votes carry a lot more weight than all of the other votes you could add up in a referendum of sysops!

Dave

32. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

```

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 94 8:40:52 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407151340.AA193448@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
>
> >From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Thu, 14 Jul 94 23:16:02 PDT
>

```

> Ref: Your note of Thu, 14 Jul 94 23:13:44 CDT
>
> The problem with taking votes via "SB SYSOP" is just what N6IYA found.
> He sent out a bulletin to all SYSOPS as well as 1200 messages to
> individual sysops. Result was 60+ responses. When he published his
> results, people screamed bloody murder because 60+ people can't speak
> for everyone.
>
> Please read the N6IYA saga and current messages floating around on
> packet. I don't have a complete copy or I would post it here.
>
> Roy
>
>
I don't recall ever having seen a copy of John's on-air survey, so it
either didn't make it into the DFW Metroplex, or I tuned it out...
This is what would happen with any on-air effort to gather a consensus,
most likely!

The only way to gather data with accuracy would be to mail out a
statistically-significant number of surveys, include a postage-paid
envelope, and a cover letter pleading for participation. How many
surveys made by commercial organizations 'bribe' the participant with a
buck and still have limited response? Quite a few, I know...
Dave W05H

33. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 94 09:46:00 EDT
To: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbbox.COM>
Cc: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E2693E0@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>> Hmm. Sounds to me as though you'd get a better response rate
>> by posting a bulletin to SYSOP@USA saying that your survey of
>> SysOps showed that they agreed that "X" and therefore, from now
>> on "X" would be done, rather than "Y." *THEN* you'd get a more
>> meaningful sample size for your "real" survey!

> Brian, I'm most glad to see someone from the ARRL comment and
> then state it's his personal remarks. A real person with some
> thoughts. I'm glad to see it. I've seen some mail reflectors
> which MANY know that ARRL employees are on, but NEVER comment.
> Sad. Tnx for your thoughts.
>
>73 Robert WB5CRG

Robert,

Wow! I must say that I greatly appreciate your pleasant,
insightful note. More often than not, anyone officially
connected with the ARRL (HQ staff, leadership officials, etc)
is used as a clay pigeon for skeet shooters who have a gripe
about the ARRL, Amateur Radio or life in general! Because of
this, there are a lot of people who prefer not to ever post
anything in public, and many avoid the temptation by simply
not even looking at messages that float about on
Internet/Usenet/FidoNet/packet/etc.

Keep in mind that ARRL HQ employees are under great pressure
to use extraordinary caution whenever they make any sort of
public statement, personal or not. An unbelievably large number
of people automatically assume anything we say is somehow an
"Official League Pronouncement" and often fly off the handle,
complaining to our bosses, their Directors and anyone else who
will listen.

Some people here have become "gun shy" after being cautioned
by their superiors that particular postings have created
unwelcome stirrings further up the hierarchy. It's not that
everyone is particularly touchy or paranoid, but like many
other pursuits, Amateur Radio known for its ability to elicit
emotionally powerful reactions from participants.

Granted, it's commonly known that anyone represents his/her
employer, to some extent, when making comments related in any
way to the employer's business, but most people are capable of
noting the distinction between his/her own private opinion and

comments that reflect the policies or views of his/her employee.
It's important not to appear incompetent, uninformed or irrational
because a person's public comments do reflect on the employer,
right or wrong.

But I'm not afraid (so far) to make a comment when I feel I
have something reasonable to contribute, and I simply trust that
we here are bright enough to understand that I'm not usually
making "official ARRL statements" whenever I type out a few thoughts.

Thanks again, and Enjoy Amateur Radio!

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10	I	Internet	bbattles@arrrl.org	I	"Radio amateurs
QST Features Editor	I	Compu\$erve	70007,3373	I	do it with high
ARRL HQ	I	MCI Mail	215-5052	I	frequency"
Tel 203-666-1541	I	Amprnet	ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org		[44.88.2.43]
Fax 203-665-7531	I	AX.25 packet	WS10 @ W1EDH.CT.USA.NA		
BBS 203-666-0578					

COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS
AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

34. Surveying SysOps (Was: Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference)

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrrl.org>
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 94 12:05:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E26B4A3@arrrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

{I changed the topic because it had become irrelevant}

>From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 14 Jul 1994 14:58:35 -0600 (MDT)

>>> I second everything Roy says. And I go one step further.
>>> Any decisions made by this sig are limited as well! I have
>>> 3000 packet SysOps listed in my lookup file and about 100
>>> read this, I expect. So it's well to discuss what might be
>>> done, but not do it until we get the vote of the other PBBS
>>> SysOps. This is best done with a sb sysop@usa message so
>>> you share it with users too.

>> Hmmm. Sounds to me as though you'd get a better response rate
>> by posting a bulletin to SYSOP@USA saying that your survey of
>> SysOps showed that they agreed that "X" and therefore, from now
>> on "X" would be done, rather than "Y." *THEN* you'd get a more
>> meaningful sample size for your "real" survey!

> Brian, if this was 1936 and my name was Stalin, your system
> would work fine. I say do x or you die, and carry on like he
> did...hi

Gee, do you think anyone would have a problem with that? 8-)

> Seriously I don't think the 100 we have here are as likely to
> come up with good ideas as the thousands out there. So I think
> we need to decide whats best from our view and then send it
> out for comment. Oh, well, better spend the time getting good
> ideas, not answering mail.

Just to clarify my point, it seems as though not many people
bother much to respond to surveys, questions, etc, but they're
more than happy to flame off *afterwards*, when someone forms
a conclusion based on a survey the flamer never bothered to reply
to when he/she was offered the opportunity. It's as though
(A) they don't want to help participate in decision making, but
will be happy to disagree with anyone else's, (B) They don't
know what they want, but they can easily recognize what they don't
want, or (C) They don't believe that the survey being conducted
is worth taking seriously until results are publicized and its
implications are discussed.

So if you want a larger percentage of a group of people to
provide their feelings or suggestions on an issue, simply make
a proposal to take some kind of action based on "what everybody
says." Guaranteed to elicit immediate, universal and specific
responses!

Brian Battles, WS10	I	Internet	bbattles@arrl.org
QST Features Editor	I	CompuServe	70007,3373
ARRL HQ	I	MCI Mail	215-5052
Tel 203-666-1541	I	Amprnet	ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org [44.88.2.43]
Fax 203-665-7531	I	AX.25 packet	WS10 @ W1EDH.CT.USA.NA

COMMENTS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS
AND ARE TOO INANE TO BE CONSIDERED OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

35. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: "John M. Wilcox" <0005018901@mcimail.com>
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 94 18:03 EST
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <83940715230338/0005018901PK2EM@mcimail.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I missed the survey here in Maine, also. I guess if I had known that N6IYA was a national leader in the forefront of packet radio development I would have held it out. We get a few messages to SYSOP @ USBBS here but generally they are trivial mind wasters and I don't devote much time to them, as a general rule. I guess I am not devoting enough time to running this bbs. Maybe if Roy would include a list of message originators who can be taken seriously in the next release of AA4RE I could do better in the future?

36. Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 1994 17:19:32 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407151716.A2205-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 14 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: makin@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
> Subject: Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 15 Jul 1994 12:24:11 +1000
>
> At 12:40 AM 14/7/94 -0500, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:
>
> Most of this discussion really does have world wide implications. That's
> why I'm participating in this and the netsig lists. What is done in the US
> effects us out here in the southern hemisphere as well so keep your
> thinking global.

But, remember... a large part of the US of A does not receive @WW distribution (by choice). It should be duped on ALLUS or whatever your local USA distro is.

Gary

37. How do we decide anything?

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Sun, 17 Jul 94 22:49:18 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407180554.AA147038@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In <9407160114.AA107442@tcet.unt.edu> TAPR BBS Special Interest Group writes:
>From: "John M. Wilcox" <0005018901@mcimail.com>
>Subject: Re: ARRL Aug '94 Digital Conference
>To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
>Date: Fri, 15 Jul 94 18:03 EST
>
>I missed the survey here in Maine, also. I guess if I had known
>that N6IYA was a national leader in the forefront of packet radio
>development I would have held it out. We get a few messages to
>SYSOP @ USBBS here but generally they are trivial mind wasters
>and I don't devote much time to them, as a general rule. I guess
>I am not devoting enough time to running this bbs. Maybe if Roy
>would include a list of message originators who can be taken
>seriously in the next release of AA4RE I could do better in the
>future?


```
73
--
Frank
frankg@panix.com
[ your ad here ]
```

From: Tim Baggett <wbaggett@NMSU.edu>
Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 13:40:32 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9407181332.B27996-0100000@gauss>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 14 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

<stuff deleted>

```
> -de karl k5di
```

73
Tim

```
*****
Tim Baggett, AA5DF                                Electrical Engineering Student
                                                    New Mexico State University

Internet: WBAGGETT@NMSU.EDU
AMPR: AA5DF@NMSUGW.AMPR.ORG                US Snail: 1805 Rentfrow Apt #1
(When on) AA5DF.AMPR.ORG                    Las Cruces, NM 88001
*****
```

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 20:03:45 -0400
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Cc: askrat@kb2ear.overleaf.com
Message-ID: <199407182355.AA29647@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Unfortunately it seems that few, if any, outside of our area took note of

our paper. In it we addressed the same issues now under discussion. As it reflects the consensus of the PBBS Sysops in the NY/NJ/CT region, I believe this paper is worth at least reading now that this issue seems to be under consideration nationwide.

If the members of this list are interested I can send the paper to the list.

I'll wait a few days. If I receive fewer than five requests I'll send the paper out as individual messages. Five or more requests will result in the paper being posted to the list. (It isn't terribly long -- just a few pages.)

73, Andy

--

```

_____  

| Andrew Funk, KB7UV  

| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |  

| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com      Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |  

|                               --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |
```

42. ENOUGH ALREADY

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 09:54:23 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <199407181354.AA14355@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

ENOUGH ALREADY. I have never seen a bigger bunch of whiners in my life.

What we have is a bunch of people who subscribe to the NIH syndrome. If I did not invent it is is NO GOOD. Grow up folks. We have some talented people in our ranks but you wouldnt know it by all the childish behaviour going on .

There are bigger fish to fry than fighting over NA or NOAM Who is matching that part of the H-Address anyway for routing ?

You want to argue over something, I have guys around here who think using GRID SQUARES is the way to go. Its like N2XYZ.FN30AH.NY.USA How do you like that address ? THAT is something to worry about. That screws up routing tables! NA/NOAM NEVER DID THAT !!!

So folks lets just stop this constant whining and lets do something constructive.
Dont bother to flame as I know some will..See, I just learned about the killfile (smile)

73

--

Frank
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

43. Re: BBS Training

From: Tim Baggett <wbaggett@NMSU.edu>
Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 13:40:32 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9407181332.B27996-0100000@gauss>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 14 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```
> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>  
> Subject: BBS Training  
> To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>  
> Date: Wed, 13 Jul 1994 15:57:44 -0600 (MDT)  
>
```

<stuff deleted>

>

```
> 1. Set up every user to NOT list every file on the bbs. For  
> example set it up so a plain L command lists only files that DO NOT fit  
> in the many established CATAGORIES. Force the user to learn to use the  
> directional L> sale commands. I use the LS xxxx function all the time but  
> seldom do I see others doing it. I showed a user how well LS kep worked  
> listing all files with kep in the title.
```

```
> -de karl k5di
```

Karl, you BBS guys still need some work in this area! Maybe it is just your system - I do not know since I rarely even use a PBBS. But a few weeks ago we were trying to test the gateway's radio port and we spent over 10 minutes TRYING to get a list of messages off your board. We followed the help messages, but still could not list messages of a specific category simply because we could not find out what categories there were.

Is there any work being done to standardize the message categories? IMHO such work could result in users easily moving from one PBBS to another and read messages pertaining to a specific subject and not caring about others.

73
Tim

```
*****
Tim Baggett, AA5DF                      Electrical Engineering Student
                                         New Mexico State University

Internet: WBAGGETT@NMSU.EDU
AMPR: AA5DF@NMSUGW.AMPR.ORG             US Snail: 1805 Rentfrow Apt #1
(When on) AA5DF.AMPR.ORG                Las Cruces, NM 88001
*****
```

44. Re: Flood Designators, etc.

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 18 Jul 94 17:21:00 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407181721.ZM15947@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 18, 7:17pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Flood Designators, etc.
> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
> Subject: Flood Designators, etc.
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 20:03:45 -0400
>
> A few years ago many of the sysops in the NYC/NJ/CT region met to discuss
> matters of mutual concern. One of the topics discussed by the group was
> that of flood designators for bulletin distribution. We came to a consensus
> for what we would do in our area, and a few of us wrote this up as a paper
> for the ARRL CNC.
>
> Unfortunately it seems that few, if any, outside of our area took note of
> our paper. In it we addressed the same issues now under discussion. As it
> reflects the consensus of the PBBS Sysops in the NY/NJ/CT region, I believe
> this paper is worth at least reading now that this issue seems to be under
> consideration nationwide.
>
> If the members of this list are interested I can send the paper to the list.
>
> I'll wait a few days. If I receive fewer than five requests I'll send the
> paper out as individual messages. Five or more requests will result in the
> paper being posted to the list. (It isn't terribly long -- just a few
pages.)
>
> 73, Andy

Andy,

could you post it to the bbs network as well?

Too few folks read the stuff on here - and everyone who is interested
in this topic certainly will get things via ham radio <giggle>.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

45. Re: ENOUGH ALREADY

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 18 Jul 94 17:33:21 PDT

To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407181733.ZM15991@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 18, 7:26pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> Subject: ENOUGH ALREADY
> From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
> Subject: ENOUGH ALREADY
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 09:54:23 -0400 (EDT)
>
> ENOUGH ALREADY. I have never seen a bigger bunch of whiners in my life.
>
> What we have is a bunch of people who subscribe to the NIH syndrome.
> If I did not invent it is is NO GOOD. Grow up folks. We have some
> talented people in our ranks but you wouldnt know it by all the childish
> behaviour going on .
>
> There are bigger fish to fry than fighting over NA or NOAM Who is
> matching that part of the H-Address anyway for routing ?
>
> You want to argue over something, I have guys around here who think
> using GRID SQUARES is the way to go. Its like N2XYZ.FN30AH.NY.USA
> How do you like that address ? THAT is something to worry about. That
> screws up routing tables! NA/NOAM NEVER DID THAT !!!

So what IS your suggestion on how we reach consensus on a
standard for these things? Perhaps we should just avoid the
topic and the problem will go away?

Yet another example of how bad our network has gotten: I've been
trying to send a msg to K6IYK for a week now. I use the address
he gives in his signature. For some of my attempts, I get back
a "service message" from WW6L or AA4RE saying their system has
killed my message to K6IYK because it has a "bad address".
It has the address K6IYK tells everyone to use.

How do we solve these problems if we don't talk about them?

And what "bigger fish" do you have in mind? Right now we have a
network that basically DOES NOT WORK because folks refuse to agree
on a set of standards that would allow it to work. If we cannot
solve this "minor problem", I would propose that any other problems
are moot.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

46. Re: Flood Designators, etc.

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Mon, 18 Jul 94 19:59:38 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407190059.AA185066@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> >From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
> Subject: Flood Designators, etc.
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 20:03:45 -0400
>
> A few years ago many of the sysops in the NYC/NJ/CT region met to discuss
> matters of mutual concern. One of the topics discussed by the group was
> that of flood designators for bulletin distribution. We came to a consensus
> for what we would do in our area, and a few of us wrote this up as a paper
> for the ARRL CNC.
>
> Unfortunately it seems that few, if any, outside of our area took note of
> our paper. In it we addressed the same issues now under discussion. As it
> reflects the consensus of the PBBS Sysops in the NY/NJ/CT region, I believe
> this paper is worth at least reading now that this issue seems to be under
> consideration nationwide.
>

> If the members of this list are interested I can send the paper to the list.
 >
 > I'll wait a few days. If I receive fewer than five requests I'll send the
 > paper out as individual messages. Five or more requests will result in the
 > paper being posted to the list. (It isn't terribly long -- just a few pages.)
 >
 > 73, Andy
 > --
 >
 > _____ Andrew Funk, KB7UV _____
 > | ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
 > | Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |
 > | --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |
 >
 >
 >
 Andy: I'd sure like a copy. If you don't get your 5 requests, pls email
 a copy to me personally. Are you going to attend the Digi Conference?
 If there is a good turnout, it should be a great opportunity to continue
 the work that has been done already. Thanks de Dave W05H
 dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

47. Re: BBS Training

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
 Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 22:07:43 -0500 (CDT)
 To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
 Message-ID: <9407182207.aa04481@blkbox.COM>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

When I sign onto the LOCAL packet BBS via PHONE MODEM
 I do:
 l@ texas
 l> dxnews
 then I will
 ls tower
 with tower replaced by anything I'm interested in buying or
 reading about. It's an FBB type system and I look at
 messages for texas (l@ texas)
 then dx stuff (l> dx & l> dxnews)
 then use the ls to search for words in the subject.

It's great to pass the mail via packet, however after phone modem access
 I wouldn't do it over a freq. with
 folks that can't program a tnc to give everyone a chance on the freq.
 My search is limited and I've read several messages and done usually in
 under 5 minutes. (The BBS has 14.4 modems) So yes train folks in
 how to look for what they want, then give them a fast port. At 1200
 baud vhf link, I'm only going to read mail addressed to me - then log off.

48. Re: Flood Designators, etc.

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
 Date: Tue, 19 Jul 1994 15:40:11 -0400
 To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <199407191931.AA14076@panix.com>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Since I've received way more than five requests, I'm posting the paper to
 the list. It will have the Subject: MGTBBS Paper: Flood Routes, etc.

73, Andy
 --
 >
 > _____ Andrew Funk, KB7UV _____
 > | ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
 > | Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |
 > | --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |
 >

49. MGTBBS Paper: Flood Routes, etc.

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
 Date: Tue, 19 Jul 1994 15:40:24 -0400
 To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <199407191932.AA14103@panix.com>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Network Enhancements Implemented
 in the CT/NJ/NY Region
 September 1992

Frank Warren, Jr., KB4CYC
Andrew Funk, KB7UV
Scott Weiss, KB2EAR

Ad-Hoc Tri-State Managed Packet Group (MGTBBS)

The problems of the proliferation of flood routings, widespread mesh forwarding and an ever-expanding system census had combined to reach a point where the PBBS network in the CT/NJ/NY tri-state region was in dire need of an overhaul. This paper details the approaches taken by the majority of systems in the region to address these problems.

1. Introduction

As part of the June 1992 ARRL Hudson Division Convention, a forum was held for regional packet radio System Operators (sysops) and Network Administrators. Our aim was to begin dialog among those operating packet systems in the region, with the goal of improving the packet environment in the region for all concerned.

(The systems _talked_ with each other, but not the people behind the systems... Until this meeting.)

Since this June meeting, Sysops and Network Managers in the tri-state region have continued meeting and planning. This work has developed a cooperative system for the distribution of bulletins. The solution developed combines a consensus on which distribution routes will be supported, a list of suggested _To:_ fields which users are encouraged to use, cellular hub and spokes bulletin distribution topology, and time reserved exclusively for user access to PBBSSs and other network services.

2. Forwarding 'Quiet Hours'

The initial decision reached by the group was to prohibit BBS-to-BBS forwarding between 1800 and 2400 local, daily, on all

paths which may also carry real-time user data. This provides users with six hours each day, during _prime time_, when their enjoyment of the packet network is not impaired by contending with automated stations.

3. Hub and Spokes Forwarding Topology

At the group's mid-July meeting, a plan to reduce bandwidth consumption by bulletin distribution was formulated. Bulletin distribution now follows a cellularized, hub/spoke or server/client design.

Many of the systems in the region use a series of regional backbone nodes maintained as part of the Eastnet Backbone Network (EBN). Others are served by the ROSE X.25 Packet Network maintained by the Radio Amateur Telecommunications Society (RATS).

Those systems using the EBN regional nodes receive their

bulletins from a single, designated hub/server within their _cell._ The cells were defined based upon the existing backbone EBN nodes. The cells currently resolve to Connecticut, Long Island, New York City, Downstate New York, Northern New Jersey and Central New Jersey. Cell size and definitions may change, over time, as a function of network traffic and topology.

The RATS ROSE Network has bi-directional connectivity with the two New Jersey EBN-based cells and a bi-directional feed to the cellularized (non-EBN) network in Southern New Jersey. Bulletin distribution for systems on this network also follows the client/server model.

This design has freed the bandwidth previously occupied (wasted!) by everyone trying to forward everything to everyone else.

In addition, this dual-network topology provides redundancy and robustness often lacking in Amateur Packet networks.

4. Supported Flood Distributions

The following is the list of flood distributions (@-field routes) the region has decided to support for forwarding:

Bulletin Flood Routes

Route	Description and Usage
xxBBS	Distribution to areas other than a state (ARRL sections, etc.)
xxNET	State-wide routing, using 2-letter state designation xx
AMSAT	Amateur satellite (AMSAT) bulletins
ARESC	Connecticut Amateur Radio Emergency Service bulletins
ARL	ARRL bulletins (@ARRL is not to be distributed)
ATLDIR	ARRL Atlantic Division distribution
CTBBS	Connecticut ARRL Section distribution (same as CTNET)
CTNET	State of Connecticut distribution (same as CT ARRL Section, CTBBS)
ENYBBS	ARRL ENY Section distribution
EPABBS	ARRL EPA Section distribution
HUDSON	ARRL Hudson Division distribution
LOCAL	Non-flood bulletin, for ONE LOCAL PBBS ONLY
NASA	Material for NASA sources
NEBBS	New England regional distribution (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI and VT)
NEWHDR	New Headers parsed by the N2MH program
NJEOC	NJ State Office of Emergency Management _Official_ bulletins
NJNET	NJ state distribution
NJPSC	NJ Public Service Communications (includes ARES)
NLIBBS	ARRL NLI Section distribution
NNJBBS	ARRL NNJ Section distribution
NYNET	State of New York distribution
PANET	State of Pennsylvania distribution
SNJBBS	ARRL SNJ Section distribution
TRIBBS	Tri-State (CT, NY and NJ) regional distribution
USBBS	United States distribution (replaces ALLUS, ALLUSA, USABBS, USA)
WNYBBS	ARRL WNY Section distribution
WW	World-Wide distribution (replaces ALLBBS, WWW)

[Note: NJEOC and NJPSC were "requested" by NJ Office of Emergency Management.]

5. Suggested _To:_ Fields

The following is a list of _To:_ fields the group decided to distribute as a partial list of suggestions. The entries for the various PBBS software were originally proposed as flood routes, but were recast as _To:_ values based on explicit statements and examples from several PBBS software authors.

Suggested _To:_ Field Usage

To:	Useage
ALL	Should only be used if nothing else applies!
AMSAT	AMSAT-specific space/satellite information
BEACON	Beacon lists and information
CBBS	Program-related distribution: CBBS
CLASS	Amateur Radio and other class announcements
DX	DX related information and questions
EVENT	Special events, on-air or not, including hamfests
EXAM	VE Exam session announcements
FBB	Program-related distribution: FBB
HELP	Requests for help which don't fit into other categories
ICOM	Icom product-specific postings
KEPS	Keplerian elements (satellite tracking)
KENWD	Kenwood product-specific postings
MBLBBS	Program-related distribution: MBL
MSYS	Program-related distribution: MSYS
PRMBS	Program-related distribution: ROSErver/PRMBS
PROP	Propagation reports
QSL	QSL information: routes, managers, etc.
REBBS	Program-related distribution: AA4RE
RLIBBS	Program-related distribution: RLI
SALE	Items for sale (Amateur Radio, of course!)
SWAP	Items offered for swap
SWL	Short Wave Listening
SYSOP	For System Operators (usually type _P_)
USERS	Postings for System or Network Users
WANT	Items wanted
YAESU	Yaesu product-specific postings

6. Conclusion

The plan outlined above, combined with ongoing efforts in user education by the participating SYSOPs, has improved packet operation throughout this region. While not all of these steps may be as useful in other areas of the country, they may serve as a basis for development of a broad based (dare we hope world wide?) consensus. We also urge the adoption of dedicated user time, for without users our systems are not needed.

7. Contacting The Authors

The authors of this paper, along with the sysops of all systems participating in the Ad_Hoc Tri_State Managed Packet Group, can be contacted by sending (using the _SP_ command) a single packet message addressed to:

RMAIL@KB4CYC.NJ.USA

and containing as the first line of text the following:

To: rmail@kb4cyc.nj.usa, sysop@tribbs

This Remote MAIL message will be processed automatically at the KB4CYC PBBS and become a flood bulletin to all the participating MGTBBS systems. (See the paper, _RMAILER: A Remote Ad Hoc Mailing List Expander, elsewhere in these proceedings for a complete explanation of Remote MAIL.)

Alternatively, as each of the authors operates a PBBS, they may be reached via packet radio using the following addresses:

kb4cyc@kb4cyc.nj.usa
kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa
kb2ear@kb2ear.nj.usa

--

| Andrew Funk, KB7UV _____
| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |
| --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |

50. Re: MGTBBS Paper: Flood Routes, etc.

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 1994 09:48:49 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <199407201348.AA25142@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

It would have been nice to mention that this paper was the consensus of almost 30 sysops that met at one time. It doesnt come accross that way.

Cant wait to see the reaction to this. Is they start pising and moaning it will be time to unsubscribe here too!

The freq of rgndny is 223.56

73

--

Frank
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

51. Re: MGTBBS Paper: Flood Routes, etc.

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Wed, 20 Jul 1994 09:48:49 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <199407201348.AA25142@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

It would have been nice to mention that this paper was the consensus of almost 30 sysops that met at one time. It doesnt come accross that way.

Cant wait to see the reaction to this. Is they start pising and moaning it will be time to unsubscribe here too!

The freq of rgndny is 223.56

73

--

Frank
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

52. Re: BBS Training

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 22 Jul 1994 09:44:02 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407220905.A5228-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 18 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Tim Baggett <wbaggett@NMSU.edu>
> Subject: Re: BBS Training
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 13:40:32 -0600 (MDT)
>
> On Thu, 14 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
LOTS DELETED

> Karl, you BBS guys still need some work in this area! Maybe it is just
> your system - I do not know since I rarely even use a PBBS. But a few
> weeks ago we were trying to test the gateway's radio port and we spent
> over 10 minutes TRYING to get a list of messages off your board. We
> followed the help messages, but still could not list messages of a
> specific category simply because we could not find out what categories
> there were.

Tim I know you and your very bright; but if you feel you can master the f6fbb bbs in 10 minutes, I'm sorry but it takes a bit longer. I suggest you connect when you have time and press the F key when your on. Then press the D key and after listing all the information files download the one called "bbsinfo.txt" and print it out. This 30,000 byte file will tell you how to list and read files of certain catagory...many of my better users have done this and it helps.

>
> Is there any work being done to standardize the mesage categories? IMHO
> such work could result in users easily moving from one PBBS to another
> and read messages pertaining to a specific subject and not caring about
> others.

In our area Tim the 3 BBS close to you run exactly the same software set up about the same way. All 3 have exactly the same files on them because I forward all files I get to them, and vis versa. So if you learn to use my bbs they will all work that way...it was planned.

-karl k5di

53. NOAM vs NA

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 25 Jul 1994 13:45:34 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407241713.A29698-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On the bbs circuit you will all see a re-transmission of the message from Dr. Clark w3iwi about the new continent designator. I have just re-read the thing and it is for sure a joke! I think Tom was seeing how many guys would follow the garden path. It was a bunch!

But I have done what he really wants to see and that is FORGET the stupid continent marker. Who for gods sake will not know where a message addressed to:

w5ham@k5di.nm.usa

is going? Is a sysop going to say oh! that goes to usa island in Japan? Well I hope there is nothing in usa, Japan known as nm...hi

73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa

54. NOAM vs NA

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Mon, 25 Jul 94 22:05:33 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407260509.AA198086@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Actually, the continent codes come in handy for certain things.

GU.USA is certainly not in NOAM nor is HI.USA. Which continent is UV3.RUS on?

I didn't become a believer in continent codes until I helped build the routing tables for a Satellite Gateway

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

55. NOAM vs NA

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Mon, 25 Jul 94 22:05:33 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407260509.AA198086@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Actually, the continent codes come in handy for certain things.

GU.USA is certainly not in NOAM nor is HI.USA. Which continent is UV3.RUS on?

I didn't become a believer in continent codes until I helped build the routing tables for a Satellite Gateway

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

56. RE: NOAM vs NA

From: JBROOKS@INS.INFONET.NET
Date: Tue, 26 Jul 1994 10:14:29 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <940726101429.6cc31@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl, I agree that you have a point. I also suspect that you do not forward to anyone outside the continental United States. Perhaps if you did, as W3IWI did at the time his paper was written, your comments might differ somewhat. I don't forward outside the continental U.S. either. But I do forward to stations that do. They DO deserve a little consideration and courtesy.

73
Jim K0JJV@K0JJV.#NWKS.KS.USA.NOAM

57. NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
Date: Tue, 26 Jul 1994 14:47:55 -0600
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <01HF5ZHE50369EE0S4@tntech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

How long has the argument of NOAM vs. NA been going on?

By now it should be obvious that a solution is not going to be agreed on by all interested parties. Various people have tried to formulate and implement a solution without success. It's time to try something different.

I propose that TAPR take the lead in solving this problem. The mechanism is as follows:

- (1) TAPR makes a formal statement of the problem, constraints on the solution, and a timetable for decision.
- (2) Proposals are submitted to TAPR for publication in PSR, this discussion group, and on the worldwide packet BBS network.
- (3) After a period of discussion the proposals are merged, revised or withdrawn.
- (4) If more than one proposal remains, a vote is taken. (The problem here is who gets to vote: sysops or everybody?)
- (5) TAPR declares the standard.

Can we do it?

Jeff, k9ja

+-+
Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@tntech.edu | Box 5004
(615) 372-3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

58. Re: NOAM vs NA

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 26 Jul 94 13:28:21 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407261328.ZM7581@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 26, 7:23am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> Subject: NOAM vs NA
> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: NOAM vs NA
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Mon, 25 Jul 94 22:05:33 PDT
>
> Actually, the continent codes come in handy for certain things.
>
> GU.USA is certainly not in NOAM nor is HI.USA. Which continent is
> UV3.RUS on?
>
> I didn't become a believer in continent codes until I helped build the
> routing tables for a Satellite Gateway

I send RUS two different directions, depending on whether it is
RUS.EU or RUS.AS ... one country, two continents.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

59. NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: jra1854@tnitech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
Date: Tue, 26 Jul 1994 14:47:55 -0600
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <01HF5ZHE50369EE0S4@tnitech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

How long has the argument of NOAM vs. NA been going on?

By now it should be obvious that a solution is not going to be agreed on by
all interested parties. Various people have tried to formulate and
implement a solution without success. It's time to try something
different.

I propose that TAPR take the lead in solving this problem. The mechanism
is as follows:

- (1) TAPR makes a formal statement of the problem, constraints on the
solution, and a timetable for decision.
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discussion group, and on the worldwide packet BBS network.
- (3) After a period of discussion the proposals are merged, revised or
withdrawn.
- (4) If more than one proposal remains, a vote is taken. (The problem
here is who gets to vote: sysops or everybody?)
- (5) TAPR declares the standard.

Can we do it?

Jeff, k9ja

+--+
Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@tnitech.edu | Box 5004
(615) 372-3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

60. Re: NOAM vs NA

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 26 Jul 94 13:28:21 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407261328.ZM7581@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 26, 7:23am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: NOAM vs NA

> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: NOAM vs NA
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Mon, 25 Jul 94 22:05:33 PDT
>
> Actually, the continent codes come in handy for certain things.
>
> GU.USA is certainly not in NOAM nor is HI.USA. Which continent is
> UV3.RUS on?
>
> I didn't become a believer in continent codes until I helped build the
> routing tables for a Satellite Gateway

I send RUS two different directions, depending on whether it is
RUS.EU or RUS.AS ... one country, two continents.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

61. A question about educating users...

From: wlb@dec.bloomu.edu (William L. Barnes)
Date: Wed, 27 Jul 1994 08:10:06 -0400
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407271210.AA06134@dec.bloomu.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello,

I have quite a few users that really don't understand much about packet
nor about how to use my bbs.

My question is if there is any easy way to educate my users. Should
I make up a sheet of important info, ? Should I sit down in theri shack and run them through a session
on the pbbs? Any ideas?

Thanks for any ideas!
73, de Bill, N3JIX. wlb@dec.bloomu.edu n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa

62. NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 07:20:41 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407271424.AA187923@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In <9407270922.AA161601@tcet.unt.edu> TAPR BBS Special Interest Group writes:

>From: jral854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
>Subject: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
>To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
>Date: Tue, 26 Jul 1994 14:47:55 -0600
>

>How long has the argument of NOAM vs. NA been going on?
>

>By now it should be obvious that a solution is not going to be agreed on by
>all interested parties. Various people have tried to formulate and
>implement a solution without success. It's time to try something
>different.
>

>I propose that TAPR take the lead in solving this problem. The mechanism
>is as follows:

>(1) TAPR makes a formal statement of the problem, constraints on the
> solution, and a timetable for decision.
>(2) Proposals are submitted to TAPR for publication in PSR, this
> discussion group, and on the worldwide packet BBS network.
>(3) After a period of discussion the proposals are merged, revised or
> withdrawn.
>(4) If more than one proposal remains, a vote is taken. (The problem
> here is who gets to vote: sysops or everybody?)
>(5) TAPR declares the standard.
>

>Can we do it?
>

>Jeff, k9ja

Of course we can but will anyone listen? Not that I am against the idea. To make it sound more official, lets enlist the ARRL Digital committee and some non-US organizations too. If we establish a good process with plenty of input then we might be able to convince people to listen.

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

63. RE: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 10:48:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E36755C@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Jeff Austen, K9JA, writes:

JA> How long has the argument of NOAM vs NA been going on?

JA> ...It should be obvious that a solution isn't going to
JA> be agreed on by all interested parties. People have
JA> tried to formulate and implement a solution without
JA> success. It's time to try something different.

Is this that big a deal? Other than occasionally having to type two extra letters, is there any reason NOAM has a real operational advantage over NA (eg, software capability, worldwide standards, routing files, etc)? Most users rarely send mail directly between continents. (Heck, most users just send everything to @USBBS, anyway!) But what's the *real* issue? If NOAM is more specific, use it. If it doesn't matter, skip it. Why go through voting, etc?

Am I being idiotically naive?

JA> I propose that TAPR take the lead in solving this problem.
JA> The mechanism is as follows:

[items deleted]

JA> (4) If more than one proposal remains, a vote is taken.
JA> (The problem here is who gets to vote: SysOps or
JA> everybody?)

Why is this a problem? Who on earth other than a PBBS SysOp could possibly care? And if someone refuses to type the extra two characters (if necessary), then (A) His packets just won't get to the destination, or (B) The PBBS could run some kind of "rewrite" file to fix it (eg, readdress all mail for US addresses to *.NOAM (or *.NA), like *.US.* = *.US.NOAM (eg, WS10@W1EDH.CT.US.xx = WS10@W1EDH.CT.US.NOAM, etc)

Either I just don't know enough about the technical jazz required to forward packets or I missed some raging religious war somewhere along the line.

I'm not a PBBS SysOp (I use AX.25 PBBSs, but I run a NOS box at home). As a PBBS *user* for a half-dozen years, it's never been of any serious concern to me whether I'm supposed to type NOAM or NA, etc--six of one, half a dozen of the other.

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 The World's Foremost Authority

QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrl.org Compu\$erve 70007,3373
MCI 215-5052 Amprnet ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

64. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 09:02:39 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>

Message-ID: <9407270902.ZM11964@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 27, 4:23am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
> Subject: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Tue, 26 Jul 1994 14:47:55 -0600
>
> How long has the argument of NOAM vs. NA been going on?
>
> By now it should be obvious that a solution is not going to be agreed on by
> all interested parties. Various people have tried to formulate and
> implement a solution without success. It's time to try something
> different.
>
> I propose that TAPR take the lead in solving this problem. The mechanism
> is as follows:
> (1) TAPR makes a formal statement of the problem, constraints on the
> solution, and a timetable for decision.
> (2) Proposals are submitted to TAPR for publication in PSR, this
> discussion group, and on the worldwide packet BBS network.
> (3) After a period of discussion the proposals are merged, revised or
> withdrawn.
> (4) If more than one proposal remains, a vote is taken. (The problem
> here is who gets to vote: sysops or everybody?)
> (5) TAPR declares the standard.
>
> Can we do it?
>
> Jeff, k9ja

Let's do it forthwith, and see if folks will accept the "TAPR decision."

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

65. Designator Standard Proposal

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 16:24:54 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Cc: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com
Message-ID: <9407271624.ZM13730@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Enclosed is the N6IYA designator proposal, for consideration
by the group, and as a straw-man for a TAPR sponsored standard.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

66. Re: NOAM vs NA

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 20:09:54 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407280109.AA195813@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
>
> >From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: NOAM vs NA
> To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Mon, 25 Jul 1994 13:45:34 -0600 (MDT)

```

>
>      On the bbs circuit you will all see a re-transmission of the
> message from Dr. Clark w3iwi about the new continent designator. I have
> just re-read the thing and it is for sure a joke! I think Tom was seeing
> how many guys would follow the garden path. It was a bunch!
>
>      But I have done what he really wants to see and that is FORGET
> the stupid continent marker. Who for gods sake will not know where a
> message addressed to:
>
>      w5ham@k5di.nm.usa
>
> is going? Is a sysop going to say oh! that goes to usa island in Japan?
> Well I hope there is nothing in usa, Japan known as nm...hi
>
> 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa
>
>
>
>
It would be a real problem-solver to get rid of that continental
designator, but it does keep forwarding files shorter. This was
discussed at Dayton and it was concluded that the continental designator
was still needed...
Dave

```

67. Re: A question about educating users...

```

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Thu, 28 Jul 94 10:18:02 MST
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407281722.AA152948@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

Too often we end up being "ego's behind screens" and tend to forget that there are people on the keyboards. it would be nice if you could make up some handouts on the BBS commands and invite some of the users over for an open house. This way you could reveal yourself as a nice human being as well as showing off your BBS/computer and station. During this process keep an eye out for a candidate user(s) who might be interested in learning how to be a remote sysop. If everyone in your area wants to be a remote sysop, so much the better as there is local pride and interest generated when the users are willing to take on responsibility.

The remote systops could be tasked with finding and loading interesting programs and files into the board's subdirectories. Another advantage of going the "human" route is once in awhile someone may wish to help out the system by donating some needed material. Depending on the scope of your operation, this could range from a UPS unit to a HF transceiver.

73 de Jack

68. Re: A question about educating users...

```

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 28 Jul 1994 15:02:25 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407281435.B17462-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

On Thu, 28 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```

> From: wlb@dec.bloomu.edu (William L. Barnes)
> Subject: A question about educating users...
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Wed, 27 Jul 1994 08:10:06 -0400
>
> Hello,
>
> I have quite a few users that really don't understand much about packet
> nor about how to use my bbs.

```

Well here is what I have done. I wrote up about a 1 page paper on how to use the f6fbb lc command. I explained how it worked and how to return to the default list everything mode. I made up a list server that sends the same message to all my daily users. I did this last weekend and watching my users makes me think the paper was good and worth it!

Now I see them do lc *kep* amd then l and list all the new keplarian data files that have come in. Others do *dx* and like that so For sure it is working.

This weekend I will do a page on the ls command wich is also very powerful.

So after it's all done I will post them here.

-karl
k5di

69. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 28 Jul 1994 15:10:49 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407281544.C17462-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 28 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 07:20:41 PDT
>
> Of course we can but will anyone listen? Not that I am against the
> idea. To make it sound more official, lets enlist the ARRL Digital
> committee and some non-US organizations too. If we establish a good
> process with plenty of input then we might be able to convince people
> to listen.
>
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>
>

Roy I think the problem is not na against noam but rather what 2
or 3 or 4 letter group stands for what? I got a real nice message from
Hank saying that the continent code is very useful for international
gateway stations.

But if a user asked me what to put for a message to Burma I would
be at a loss. So what we need is a group of 3 to 5 hams that know the
current useage of the continent stuff and then make up a package of the
information that I can download and put in my bbs so I know where to go
for any mail anywhere.

-karl k5di.nm.usa until this mess is fixed!

70. RE: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Thu, 28 Jul 1994 18:11:21 -0400
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199407282202.AA19534@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 01:29 AM 7/28/94 CDT, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

>From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
>Subject: RE: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
>To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
>Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 10:48:00 EDT
>
>
>
>Jeff Austen, K9JA, writes:
>
>JA> How long has the argument of NOAM vs NA been going on?
>
>
> Is this that big a deal? Other than occasionally having to
>type two extra letters, is there any reason NOAM has a real
>operational advantage over NA (eg, software capability,
>worldwide standards, routing files, etc)?

YES!

Many sysops will not pass traffic with the NOAM designator. It just gets
killed. This is, IMHO, a big deal.

With the ever-increasing interconnection, and especially confusion, between
packet and the Internet is is important that the Amateur Radio addresses not
cause difficulties on the Internet -- as apparently does happen now.

>But what's the *real* issue?
>If NOAM is more specific, use it. If it doesn't matter, skip

>it. Why go through voting, etc?

With a few exceptions (like Russia), there's really no need for continent designations at all!

> Why is this a problem? Who on earth other than a PBBS SysOp
>could possibly care?

Much of the problem is, again, due to incompatibilities with other networks with which Amateur Packet Radio exchanges mail.

73, Andy

--

```

      Andrew Funk, KB7UV
|  ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
|  Internet: kb7uv@panix.com      Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |
|  --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |

```

71. RE: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: laborde@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
Date: Thu, 28 Jul 94 17:28:57 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407290028.AB22892@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>With the ever-increasing interconnection, and especially confusion, between
>packet and the Internet is is important that the Amateur Radio addresses not
>cause difficulties on the Internet -- as apparently does happen now.

This seems like a red herring issue to me. Our club operates an AX.25 BBS, an Amprnet system, and a packet/Internet gateway. I do not recall seeing or hearing of any address conflict in the year that it has been up. Where are the systems that crunch on _BOTH_ packet and Internet address that are having the problems? Our AX.25 BBS handles both NA and NOAM. My SMTP mailer seems to have difficulty with the '#' more than anything.

Could this be a problem of the packet network _wishing_ that it was more connected to the Internet than it is?

Gregory R. LaBorde
Member Technical Staff - Galileo OET Phone: (818) 393-1107
Jet Propulsion Laboratory Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
California Institute of Technology Amateur Call: KD6MSM
4800 Oak Grove Drive Packet: kd6msm@w6vio.#soca.ca.usa.na
Pasadena, California 91109-8099

72. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Thu, 28 Jul 1994 21:47:44 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407282147.aa02580@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Gentleman,

As a BBS user, a thought here on NA vs. NAOM? (and grid squares or usa instead of NA). The ARRL is the national organization. Even if you could get everyone here to agree, you still have everyone outside the internet doing their thing. Get the ARRL (or international group) to adopt a "band plan" here. You can debate this thing to death, it doesn't mean anything if you can't propose something to the ARRL. The system must have some standards if it is to work well for everyone.

Once that plan is adopted, return messages that are not correct and ask for a correction.

--

73

```

=====
Robert Wood                                      The mountain is high,
WB5CRG                                              and the emporer is far away
w5robert@blkbox.com                              (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc.!)
w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu
=====

```

73. NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 05:04:43 PDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407291213.AA188327@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
Ref: Your note of Fri, 29 Jul 94 2:46:22 CDT

1. To answer the question of "Is the NA vs NOAM problem real?"
Yes. It has been quiet lately but the problem exists. There is
a current bandaaid in place:

```
; <<>> DiG 2.0 <<>> usa.na any
;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY , status: NOERROR, id: 4
;; flags: qr aa rd ra ; Ques: 1, Ans: 2, Auth: 0, Addit: 0
;; QUESTIONS:
;;      usa.na, type = ANY, class = IN

;; ANSWERS:
usa.na. 86400    MX      10 grimsel.frsc.alt.za.
usa.na. 86400    MX      100 nuustak.csir.co.ZA.
```

To prevent the poor guy in Nambia from getting overwhelmed, they put a
misdirection into the tables. Amateur radio sure got a black eye
in the view of many Internetters on this.

2. I would hope that the we are talking about 4-letter codes versus
2-letter codes and not just NOAM. There are other problems to be
solved.

Roy

74. Re: Educating users...

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrrl.org>
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 09:03:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E38FEE0@arrrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Too often we end up being "egos behind screens"
> and tend to forget that there are people on the
> keyboards. It would be nice if you could make up
> handouts on the PBBS commands and invite users
> over for an open house. This way you could reveal
> yourself as a nice human being and show off your
> PBBS/computer and station.

And if it isn't possible/convenient, there's
another medium amateurs often overlook:

The telephone!

A personal call to a new user (if local, I guess)
could make a big difference in the way they're
introduced to your PBBS and perhaps packet in
general.

> During this process keep an eye out for a
> candidate user(s) who might be interested
> in learning how to be a remote SysOp....

Excellent tip, and possibly the opportunity
to become someone's first true "Elmer."

> Another advantage of going the "human" route
> is once in a while, someone may wish to help out
> the system by donating some needed material.

Especially those nifty green coupons accepted
in exchange for radios and computers by all
vendors!

Also, what do you want to bet that people
"flame" people they've met in person (or even on
the telephone) a LOT less than people they've
never met? 8-)

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 The World's Foremost Authority

QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrl.org CompuServe 70007,3373
MCI 215-5052 Amprnet ws1o@ws1o-2.ampr.org

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

75. Re: Educating users...

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 09:16:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E3901CD@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> I have users who don't understand much about packet,
> nor about how to use my PBBS.

Remember when we were all like that? (Exceptin' maybe
Hank, Roy, Michael, etc--seeing as how there essentially
weren't PBBSs before they started tickling their
keyboards) 8-)

> I wrote up a 1-page paper on how to use the
> F6FBB lc command. I explained how it worked and
> how to return to the default list everything mode.
> I made up a list server that sends the same message
> to all my daily users. I did this last weekend and
> watching my users makes me think the paper was good
> and worth it!
>
> Now I see them do lc *kep* and list all the new
> Keplerian data files that have come in. Others
> do *dx* and like that so on. For sure it's working.

****GASP!!**** You...you..you mean you try to h-h-help a
fellow amateur BEFORE you take advantage of a great
opportunity to abuse him and call him a lid, etc?!!
Disgusting! Patronizing! Wimpy! 8-)

Boy, just think of all the BS and trouble that would
disappear like magic if people HELPED each other. Not
speaking of the jerks or cementheads who'll just never
"get it," but all the well-meaning yet inexperienced
people who inadvertently contribute to the maelstrom
of "Oy, vey!" type stuff we've all stared at for years!

This should be at the bottom of the FCC license:

"No being mean and nasty to other people. Offer to
politely help them in a friendly (and perhaps private)
manner."

Have an exceptional weekend!

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 The World's Foremost Authority

QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrl.org CompuServe 70007,3373
MCI 215-5052 Amprnet ws1o@ws1o-2.ampr.org

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IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

76. RE: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 09:52:00 EDT
To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E390A04@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Andy Funk replied thusly:

BB>> How long has the argument of NOAM vs NA been going on?
BB>> Is this that big a deal? Other than occasionally having
BB>> to type two extra letters, is there any reason NOAM has
BB>> a real operational advantage over NA (eg, software
BB>> capability, worldwide standards, routing files, etc)?

AF> YES!

AF>

AF> Many SysOps will not pass traffic with the NOAM designator.

AF> It just gets killed. This is, IMHO, a big deal.

Well, now, hold the phone thar, Andy OM...looks like we
crossed wires a tad...I asked if NOAM had an advantage
over NA. You apparently mean "NO!" 8-)

AF> With the ever-increasing interconnection, and especially
AF> confusion, between packet and the Internet it's important
AF> that the Amateur Radio addresses not cause difficulties
AF> on the Internet--as apparently does happen now.

Yeah, I was thinking that, too. Networking guru that I am
(hahahahahaha), it occurs to me that amateurs use the same
00.00.00.00 and xxx@xxx.xxx jazz as the Internet, and the
Internet apparently uses .uk, .de, etc, so why not "swipe"
the Internet country codes and do it the same way?

>But what's the *real* issue? If NOAM is more specific,
>use it. If it doesn't matter, skip it. Why go through
>voting, etc?

With a few exceptions (like Russia), there's really no need for continent
designations at all!

BB> Why is this a problem? Who on earth other than a PBBS
BB> SysOp could possibly care?

AF> Much of the problem is, again, because of
AF> incompatibilities with other networks with which
AF> amateur packet radio exchanges mail.

Okay, lemme clarify: What I mean is, if you're a PBBS
SysOp and I'm a PBBS user, and you tell me: "Here's how
to address international packet mail..." I'm going to
say, "Okay, fine." There's no reason for me to care if
I oughta type NA or NOAM or BFXL...well, BFXL may not
associate well mnemonically for North America...but the
point is, SysOps: DECIDE WOTCHA WANT AND SO DECREE IT TO
USERS. Period. They address mail wrong, it don't go
nowhere, same as if you screw up on a plain, old-fashint
Post Office letter!

How to decide what to use? Unless there's a darn good
reason not to, just use the codes the Internet uses. It's
already working worldwide, hams would be compatible and
more people are dealing with it every day. An exception or
two? Figger out a solution, case-by-case. Then tell the
users how to do it right, give 'em the abbreviations in
lists they can find, and Bingo, case closed.

Any other crises I can solve for ya? 8-)

CUL es 73 de BB

Stupid? Maybe
Decisive? Um, yeah!

Brian Battles, WS10 The World's Foremost Authority

QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
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MCI 215-5052 Amprnet ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

- - - - -
ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

77. RE: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 1994 11:29:30 -0600
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <01HF9ZFCHC4I9I4J01@tntech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ummmm...Excuse me!

We've drifted off topic (again) and are now arguing about NOAM vs. NA ... which, I suppose, is proof by example that a solution is needed.

There seems to be a lack of authoritative organizations which can endorse the standard. All I've seen suggested so far are TAPR and the ARRL digital committee. However, I think that this is not a fatal problem provided that there is sufficient time for international participation in the decision process.

So, I'll again suggest that TAPR take the lead in the formation of this standard. Is TAPR willing to do it and are people willing to accept whatever decision is eventually made?

By the way, I'm talking about the problem of addressing mail messages, not bulletin flood designators. That's a separate problem.

Jeff, k9ja

+--+
Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@tntech.edu | Box 5004
(615) 372-3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

78. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 09:33:51 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407290933.ZM19848@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 29, 2:46am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbbox.COM>
> Subject: Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Thu, 28 Jul 1994 21:47:44 -0500 (CDT)
>
> Gentleman,
> As a BBS user, a thought here on NA vs. NAOM? (and grid squares
> or usa instead of NA). The ARRL is the national organization.
> Even if you could get everyone here to agree, you still have
> everyone outside the internet doing their thing. Get the ARRL
> (or international group) to adopt a "band plan" here. You
> can debate this thing to death, it doesn't mean anything if you can't
> propose something to the ARRL. The system must have some
> standards if it is to work well for everyone.
>
> Once that plan is adopted, return messages that are not correct
> and ask for a correction.

The ARRL has been asked (many times over the past 9 years),
and has refused to take on the responsibility.

I suspect if we ask them again, they will again refuse.

But what the heck, give it a try!

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

79. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 1994 12:00:11 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407291145.A9116-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 28 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 07:20:41 PDT
>
> Of course we can but will anyone listen? Not that I am against the
> idea. To make it sound more official, lets enlist the ARRL Digital
> committee and some non-US organizations too. If we establish a good
> process with plenty of input then we might be able to convince people
> to listen.
>
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

Roy, and others:

As I told you years ago, when I was still running your software, the real answer is for --> YOU <--, the authors of the software, to come to an agreement on what is going to be used worldwide, and then HARD CODE IT so that no one can mess with it. If a committee is needed to make the decision, so be it. Just get it done. Hard code a minimal header, some standardized distribution addresses, and EVERYONE stick to it.

And... after a decision is made about what is standard, make your software reject all messages that don't stick to it, so that there won't be people who "do their own thing". People just don't get the message. When you are in a network, you can't just do your own thing. It all has to be standardized.

This argument has been going on for years (many years, for those newbies who think this is something new). Isn't it time to fix the problem with "fixed" software, and get on with life?

Gary

80. RE: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 1994 13:36:36 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407291341.A9201-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 28 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
> Subject: RE: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 28 Jul 1994 18:11:21 -0400

> With the ever-increasing interconnection, and especially confusion, between
> packet and the Internet is important that the Amateur Radio addresses not
> cause difficulties on the Internet -- as apparently does happen now.

But, a question... why should amateur traffic ever get to internet to be confused? Sorry folks, this is amateur radio and I don't see why it has to be interfaced with other networks.

Someone posted something a week or two ago mentioning interfacing Mosaic and other road-hog applications with packet. Why? If this is the direction packet radio is going, count me out. (Yeah, I know there were some cheers there :) Seriously, why is there a desire to interface?

If I want to send email to someone, I get on internet. If I want to send pmail to someone, I do it on packet. True, not everyone has access to internet and/or packet. But, does that mean they have to tie together and interconnect?

Gary

81. point of view off BBS system

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbbox.COM>
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 1994 16:20:18 -0500 (CDT)

To: tapr bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407291620.aa12017@blkbbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>From : N3DFD
To : SYSOP@USA
Type/status : B\$
Date/time : 29-Jul 01:02
BID (MID) : 999_N3DFD
Message # : 53063
Title : Placing the blame!!!
TO: SYSOP @ ALLBBS

-
One SYSOP writes:
-
>> Each BBS can change the flood zone identifiers to whatever
>> each sysop prefers....
>> A single message crossing the USA probably gets changed 20 or
>> 30 times...
-
This is a MAJOR reason why we need a STANDARD for the AT field and the
xID field, (callsign_12345).
-
Some of you 'aint gonna' like what I have to say but it needs to be said
by someone.
-
A BBS should NOT be allowed to change ANY field that is included in the
original Sx prompt. If I send a message addressed @ USBBS, I mean to
target that message to ALL BBS's in the US. Too many times the AT field
for that message gets changed to ALLBBS which then re-targets the message
for ALL BBSs, WORLD WIDE, which was never intended. This is just one
example. There are many more.
-
I, for one, do not hold the SYSOPS completely responsible for the mess
our NETWORK is in. The MAJOR responsibility for MOST of this mess belongs
to the BBS CODE WRITERS. BBS software should NOT be written in such a
fashion as to allow ANY AUTOMATIC changing of ANY of the fields in the
original Sx prompt (proposal) it receives.
-
The BBS CODE WRITERS, in their constant efforts to prove how clever they
are by constantly adding 'gimmicks' to their software which allow the SYSOP
more control over things he shouldn't have any control over in the first
place, must be held responsible for the decline in the reliability of the
packet network to handle mail exchange accurately and reliably. Some SYSOPS
are not as 'clever' as some of you code writers.
-
I believe that anything dealing with how BBS software interfaces with
the NETWORK should allow minimum or NO input by the SYSOP and NEVER allow
the SYSOP to AUTOMATE possible changes. The originating Sx prompt and every
thing contained in it (TYPE, TO , AT, FROM and BID fields) should NEVER
be subject to automatic or non automatic change by any BBS that receives
it. The SYSOP should not be allowed any access to this prompt or the fields
contained therein and don't give me any garbage about changing the xIDS or
any other field to accommodate INTERNET or any other NON-PACKET network.
WE ARE NOT INTERNET NOR ARE WE LIKELY TO BECOME INTERNET!!!
-
Also, while I'm on the subject, anyone who is in this day and age using
software that can not handle MID's should change their software or demand
that the author of this software upgrade it immediately. An xID should
NEVER be changed or re-created by a BBS, except in the case where the
message has to be returned to the originating BBS. If you get a message
without an xID, forward it to the bit bucket.
-
One final note. I don't think the SYSOPS can fix the problems of the
packet networks unreliability. Only the BBS code writers can if they would
only use some common sense and stop trying to prove how clever they are
and trying to outdo each other and in some cases IMPOSING their own idea
of how things should be done by writing 'server' software or incorporating
routines into their own BBS software that FORCES changes to things like R:
headers, xIDS, etc.
-
** A side note:
-
You see the '-' in this message that represents a blank line to separate
paragraphs? I have to resort to this because some code writer, in his
infinite wisdom, decided to 'COMPACT' all messages that pass through his
BBS software by writing a 'server' or incorporating this directly into his
BBS software, and remove all blank lines from a message which would make
the message harder to read and be improperly formatted according to English
writing protocol.

- C'mon you code writers, you broke it, now fix it!

--- End of message #53063 to SYSOP from N3DFD ---

73 Robert w5robert@blkbox.com wb5crg

82. Re: A question about educating users...

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 22:09:02 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407300309.AA126999@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> Hello,
> I have quite a few users that really don't understand much about packet
> nor about how to use my bbs.
>
> My question is if there is any easy way to educate my users. Should
> I make up a sheet of important info, ? Should I sit down in theri shack and run them throught a
session on the pbbs? Any ideas?
>
> Thanks for any ideas!
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX. wlb@dec.bloomu.edu n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa
>
>
One seemingly helpful thing I have done since day one is to make the
user's guide (bundled with the bbs software) available if a user sends a
stamped, self-addressed envelope.

I just don't have the time to coach people one-on-one to use packet. Keeping
the bbs running, among several other ham radio volunteer activities, is
enough. Let folks be resourceful and read a book and read the user
docs. If they have a question then, I'm happy to help.

You can tell who has the docs; you notice more sophisticated command
use!

Dave W05H

83. Re: Designator Standard Proposal

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 22:15:22 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407300315.AA127053@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Many thanks to Hank for uploading John's proposal. I have promised him
that this will be included when the Task Force that specifically looks
at hierarchical addresses and flood designators makes their
recommendation.

By the way, the formation of this task force and the enlistment of
additional members is one of the items on the agenda for the status
report on the TAPR BBS SIG at the upcoming National Digital Conference.

Dave W05H

84. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 22:46:05 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407300346.AA127121@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> >From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 05:04:43 PDT
>
> Ref: Your note of Fri, 29 Jul 94 2:46:22 CDT
>
> 1. To answer the question of "Is the NA vs NOAM problem real?"
> Yes. It has been quiet lately but the problem exists. There is
> a current bandaid in place:

```

>
> ; <<>> DiG 2.0 <<>> usa.na any
> ;; ->>HEADER<<- opcode: QUERY , status: NOERROR, id: 4
> ;; flags: qr aa rd ra ; Ques: 1, Ans: 2, Auth: 0, Addit: 0
> ;; QUESTIONS:
> ;;      usa.na, type = ANY, class = IN
>
> ;; ANSWERS:
> usa.na. 86400    MX      10 grimsel.frccs.alt.za.
> usa.na. 86400    MX      100 nuustak.csir.co.ZA.
>
> To prevent the poor guy in Nambia from getting overwhelmed, they put a
> misdirection into the tables. Amateur radio sure got a black eye
> in the view of many Internetters on this.
>
> 2. I would hope that the we are talking about 4-letter codes versus
> 2-letter codes and not just NOAM. There are other problems to be
> solved.
>
> Roy
>
>
>
> Absolutely, recommendations for contemporary hierarchical address elements
> and flood designators must be comprehensive, uniform, and consistent in
> order for it to be simple to remember (KISS!!!) and most efficient when
> parsed by software (simpler setup files).

```

Dave

85. Re: Educating users...

```

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 23:06:32 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407300406.AA127172@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
>
> >From: "Battles, Brian" <bbattles@arrl.org>
> Subject: Re: Educating users...
> To: bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 09:16:00 EDT
>
>
>
> **GASP!!! You...you..you mean you try to h-h-help a
> fellow amateur BEFORE you take advantage of a great
> opportunity to abuse him and call him a lid, etc?!
> Disgusting! Patronizing! Wimpy! 8-)
>
> Boy, just think of all the BS and trouble that would
> disappear like magic if people HELPED each other. Not
> speaking of the jerks or cementheads who'll just never
> "get it," but all the well-meaning yet inexperienced
> people who inadvertently contribute to the maelstrom
> of "Oy, vey!" type stuff we've all stared at for years!
>
> This should be at the bottom of the FCC license:
>
> "No being mean and nasty to other people. Offer to
> politely help them in a friendly (and perhaps private)
> manner."
>
>
>
> Have an exceptional weekend!
>
>
> CUL es 73 de BB
>
>
> NOT to be syrupy or sappy, but something I read with the AUTOSIG
> CompuServe-terminal freeware package stuck with me:
> it said if you appreciated the software, don't think about paying
> someone back for it. Pay someone else 'forward.' Help instead of
> calling them a jerk; take some time to help someone with a technical
> problem; etc. There is a lot of that taking place in amateur radio and
> other technical activities. It's just that the negative episodes tend
> to make a stronger impression on us, I suppose.

```

It seems to be a syndrome among sysops (and related species) not to want to disclose too much about the inner workings of BBS operation. To discourage others from setting up BBSs? Keep the competition down? It's a real effort to explain things because they are pretty complicated, when you get down to it...

The trick, I guess, is to encourage users to help themselves first, by suggesting resource material for them to read. If we need more materials that are more descriptive of how to use a packet BBS, then that is something that TAPR can make available to the public at low or no cost. This takes motivation on our (BBS sysops, software developers, talented writers and editors, etc.) to donate our time and expertise to, in effect, pay our users 'forward' by helping to create some instructional materials for TAPR to distribute. This is, after all, one of the goals that TAPR has in its mission statement, and one of the responsibilities that the BBS SIG has been charged with by the TAPR BoD.

Any takers (I already know some folks who won't have to be asked!)

Dave W05H

86. Re: Educating users...

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 30 Jul 1994 07:42:45 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9407300711.C6598-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 30 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
> Subject: Re: Educating users...
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Fri, 29 Jul 94 23:06:32 CDT

Lots deleted.....

> other technical activities. It's just that the negative episodes tend
> to make a stronger impression on us, I suppose.

That must be the case.

>
> It seems to be a syndrome among sysops (and related species) not to want
> to disclose too much about the inner workings of BBS operation. To
> discourage others from setting up BBSs? Keep the competition down?
> It's a real effort to explain things because they are pretty
> complicated, when you get down to it...

Let me admit something here. When I was writing my paper for the users on the lc command, the *SYSOP* had to sneak over to the bbs and log in and do some of the lc commands because the *SYSOP* didn't know how they really work...and now I know I missed one. Yesterday Roy N5RG told me about the lc ? call; this lists all the xxx@ types and how many of each.

So here it is: When you try to help/educate others YOU also learn. As a EE professor I learned a lot more than I taught. To teach it you must know it....

>
> The trick, I guess, is to encourage users to help themselves first, by
> suggesting resource material for them to read. If we need more
> materials that are more descriptive of how to use a packet BBS, then
> that is something that TAPR can make available to the public at low or
> no cost. This takes motivation on our (BBS sysops, software developers,
> talented writers and editors, etc.) to donate our time and expertise to,
> in effect, pay our users 'forward' by helping to create some
> instructional materials for TAPR to distribute. This is, after all, one
> of the goals that TAPR has in its mission statement, and one of the
> responsibilities that the BBS SIG has been charged with by the TAPR BoD.

Dave please ask me as it will be a labor of love. I am a sysop and do enjoy helping the guys with the wierd gear at least enjoy their time on the pbbs.

>
> Any takers (I already know some folks who won't have to be asked!)
>
> Dave W05H
>
>
karl k5di

87. Interfacing

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Sat, 30 Jul 94 10:43:25 EDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9407301043.tn387127@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

A short while ago, Gary McDuffie said:

>>But, a question... why should amateur traffic ever get to internet to be
>>confused? Sorry folks, this is amateur radio and I don't see why it has
>>to be interfaced with other networks.

To which Luck Hurder KY1T retorts:

This is a VERY interesting question -- one that I've been pleased to deal with both as an individual amateur and as a professional one when I worked at ARRL HQ. It's the type of question that NEEDS to be asked on occasion, so thanks, Gary for posing it.

The answer is obvious and clear; the Amateur Radio SERVICE is here AS a service. Both to ourselves as radio amateurs and to the public of course. Some of us like to hide out, content with the notion that we're safe in our own little (?) world of hams that just hang out doing whatever hams do, and not necessarily interfacing with the rest of humanity. And I do NOT mean to indicate that Gary falls into this category of folks, but rather that there are some -- fortunately not all that many -- who do.

As for the rest of us -- the majority, I hope -- we understand that we must (and absolutely WILL) serve the public, just as we have since the beginning of the Amateur Radio Service time domain. And that translates perfectly well into interfacing our networks with EVERYTHING we possibly can, including the Internet. To the extent that we can increase our ability to serve agencies, the public, and yes, ourselves as well, then to that extent will we continue to prosper as a service.

Take a look at the recent rash of Part 97 changes that have been put into effect. And, when you're looking at those changes, do so with an eye toward the question of whether or not the FCC (not to mention those who suggested the changes, for it's virtually never the FCC themselves who do so...) recognizes their mandate to act in the public interest. The relaxing of the "no-business, now-you-can-order-pizza, now-you-can-make-a-doctor's apointment-via-the-patch" rule (97.1113) is an excellent example of that. It in fact suggests and ALLOWS us to progress with the very interfacing of networks that Gary has wondered allowed about. Ditto for the more recent wording that lessens the financial impact (because of FCC fines) on non-originating SYSOPS who simply relay digital data. This is a SUPERB, empowering series of steps in the correct direction, absolutely designed to enable us to perform our good deeds with a bit more efficiency and a lot less worry.

We now have the authority to do such things. And I for one, am absolutely delighted!

Luck Hurder, KY1T KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM
53 Broadview St. "The Amateur Radio Service opens doors
Newington CT 06111 to the world for EVERYONE!"

88. Re: point of view off BBS system

From: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>
Date: Sat, 30 Jul 1994 11:53:05 -0600 (CST)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.88.9407301107.D182-0100000@herald.usask.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 30 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbbox.COM>
> Subject: point of view off BBS system
>

```

> >From      : N3DFD
> To        : SYSOP@USA
> Title     : Placing the blame!!!
> ..... MUCH deleted .....
> I believe that anything dealing with how BBS software interfaces with
> the NETWORK should allow minimum or NO input by the SYSOP and NEVER allow
> the SYSOP to AUTOMATE possible changes.
Nonsense. In a perfect world this might work, but if you think a sysop
enjoys correcting the same kinds of mistake over and over again, you're
crazy. After all, what's the computer for? If it can't make the job of
the sysop easier it might as well not be there.

> The originating Sx prompt and every
> thing contained in it (TYPE, TO , AT, FROM and BID fields) should NEVER
> be subject to automatic or non automatic change by any BBS that receives
> it.

```

Rubbish. If you send mail on my system with "sp gm3zzz@gb7zzz" how is the BBS going to know, all on its clever own, how to get your mail to gb7zzz? It will simply stay here unless I *change* the AT field! But you don't want me to change it nor have the power to automate the change? Fine. Your mail sits here forever (or until it automatically expires).

Don't like automation? Don't use it. But what I would do is put gm3zzz in my user file with a fully qualified home address and the next time you don't give my BBS enough info it'll be smart enough to change "gb7zzz" to the full hierarchical address.

I do agree that systems should not change BIDs. But not allowing any change to the TO, and especially the AT field assumes that users know exactly what they're doing and never mistakes. Even I'm not that perfect.

73 de Pete
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

89. Re: Educating users...

```

From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
Date: Sat, 30 Jul 1994 18:26:53 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9407301853.H28824-0100000@gauss>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 30 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Educating users...
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Sat, 30 Jul 1994 07:42:45 -0600 (MDT)

```

```

> So here it is: When you try to help/educate others YOU also
> learn. As a EE professor I learned a lot more than I taought. To teach it
> you must know it....

```

I must have missed that lab.....

73
Tim - the professional student

```

-----
Tim Baggett, AA5DF          | Countdown to Graduation: 139 days & counting
Las Cruces, New Mexico    | "Ya want fries wid dat hamburger?"
                             |
New Mexico State University | "If you can't run with the big dogs,
Electrical Engineering Student | then stay on the porch"
-----

```

90. Re: Interfacing

```

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Sat, 30 Jul 94 19:55:07 MST
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9407310257.AA185303@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

Luck Hurder poses an interesting response regarding interfacing between amateur and internet message systems. One comment that rang a bell is that of the FCC relaxation on intermediate BBSes being responsible for their msg content. This certainly has obvious advantages. However as a user, this relaxation has brought about an undesirable situation here in arizona that is affecting portions of the network elsewhere.

Apparently one of the telephone forwarding BBSes in the Phoenix area has equipment problems which he is steadfastly ignoring. For reasons I don't understand neighbor forwarding partners on either side of him are also ignoring the situation. The result is on my local BBS, we get one hundred or more garbled messages a day. Portions of the text are randomly inserted back into the text making it extremely difficult to read except perhaps for very short messages.

After a couple weeks of this, I sent a query to our immediate fwding stn and after a period of time got back a response: "yes I see this here as well." Another week goes by and I again query are fwding partner who responded he hadn't heard anything back yet (^ our) from his query.

Another week passes and I send a query to HIS Aridzona fwding partner and get back a non-response. The garble continues for another week and as a result of my sending a SYSOP@ALLUS complaining about this I learn that various areas around the U.S. (and perhaps even WW) are experiencing the same thing. One message from a user thanked me because he thought the cause of the garble was due to his new upgraded TNC firmware! A couple of sysops took me to task for what they deemed improper use of the SYSOP@ALLUS platform!

Out of this exchange I learned the culprit is in the Phoenix area and is 3rd or 4th up the forwarding chain from us. Furthermore, I learned NONE of these sysops care whether they forward garbled messages or not! The attitude of our major bbs sysop in Arizona is: "It isn't my equipment and not my concern!" This same attitude has been reflected by other sysops as well. They say with the new rules, "they aren't responsible."

To me as a singleton approach the solution would be to pull the plug on the offending sysop until he gets his equipment working properly. But for some reason, his neighbor sysops seem unwilling to do this.

I realize this is just a hobby, but I can't help but wonder what is the purpose of 'wasting' resources to forward garbled traffic that no one is going to read? Getting back to an earlier thread about a low percentage (40 percent was originally quoted) of traffic being read by the users, I am sure mindlessly passing large amounts of garbled traffic is NOT going to help that situation!

What is a solution? As new sysops join the ranks, they no doubt have a lot to learn and I believe a FAQ on BBS operation would be well received. There are a number of old-timers on the net here who could contribute quite a bit of useful input. The FAQ could set guidelines on burning issues such as NOAM vs. NA as well as identifying common sense standards and procedures for handling traffic that is garbled in the system. It could also outline guidelines regarding the "rights" of sysops and users, all of which would help calm down the flame wars that periodically erupt over these issues.

73 de Jack

August 1994

Original source file: bbssig.9408

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9408

1. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: djk@dirku.demon.co.uk (Dirk-Jan Koopman)
Date: Mon, 1 Aug 1994 15:14:04 +0200 (BST)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <m0qUy7w-0004g9C@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

It distresses me to see that, yet again, we appear to descending into religious strife about which underlying protocol will best serve our future networking needs.

What short memories we seem to have....

The same arguments crop up time and time again and the most obvious one is ignored - largely because it seems to be insoluble.

The argument stems from this fact viz:

AN ADDRESS IS NOT A ROUTE

Sorry to shout but this simple statement seems to have been forgotten in all the religious fervour (neither is the statement original).

The only advantage that IP has over NETROM seems to be that the professionals on the internet have cracked the routing problem by not only installing intelligent routers (which we don't appear to have in any quantity) and, more importantly, easily accessible and FAST directory services (yes and several RFCs defining all this but so what).

Having intelligent routers and fast directory services has damn all to do with protocol stacks. You impliment them on top of what you have got - above all YOU IMPLEMENT THEM!

This would also (probably) remove the NOAM and NA problem at a stroke.

As this sig is read more in the US than elsewhere can I remind you that you there have probably the most chaotic internet addressing scheme going as you could be addressed as anything from 'arasmith.com' -> 'genovive.snoopy.clinton.whitehouse.gov' (just to make something up), the underlying numbering scheme isn't too hierarchical either. It still gets there - and surprisingly quickly! But the speed of routing has nothing to with the lexical or numeric construction of the address.

What the IP people also seem to be conveniently forgetting is that, as we speak, son of IP is being designed to cope with the undoubted fact that the address field is too short and sparsely allocated to serve us all for very much longer (especially as a route!).

Sorting out directory services so that routes can be determined in real time is a serious omission in our network usage. Unfortunately it can only be solved by cooperation and a certain amount of political clout - it should not be tied to any particular protocol stack but defined to stand on its own - all of which probably means we shall have this argument again (and again) for years to come.....

Sigh.....

Dirk G1TLH

2. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 1 Aug 94 10:34:42 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408011034.ZM23079@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 30, 4:43am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
> Subject: Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>

```

> Date: Fri, 29 Jul 1994 12:00:11 -0600 (MDT)
>
>
>
> On Thu, 28 Jul 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
>
> > From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> > Subject: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> > To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> > Date: Wed, 27 Jul 94 07:20:41 PDT
> >
> > Of course we can but will anyone listen? Not that I am against the
> > idea. To make it sound more official, lets enlist the ARRL Digital
> > committee and some non-US organizations too. If we establish a good
> > process with plenty of input then we might be able to convince people
> > to listen.
> >
> > Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>
> Roy, and others:
>
> As I told you years ago, when I was still running your software, the real
> answer is for --> YOU <--, the authors of the software, to come to an
> agreement on what is going to be used worldwide, and then HARD CODE IT so
> that no one can mess with it. If a committee is needed to make the
> decision, so be it. Just get it done. Hard code a minimal header, some
> standardized distribution addresses, and EVERYONE stick to it.
>
> And... after a decision is made about what is standard, make your
> software reject all messages that don't stick to it, so that there won't
> be people who "do their own thing". People just don't get the message.
> When you are in a network, you can't just do your own thing. It all has
> to be standardized.
>
> This argument has been going on for years (many years, for those newbies
> who think this is something new). Isn't it time to fix the problem with
> "fixed" software, and get on with life?
>
> Gary

```

For some of us authors, hard-coding things like that will not work.

Our software is used in other networks or for other uses where the standards are different than the ham bbs network.

That said, I'm perfectly willing to put out a version with at least hard-coded continent-sized-region designators ... no big deal.

What should they be?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

3. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

```

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Wed, 3 Aug 1994 10:59:56 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199408030059.KAA27893@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 10:52 AM 1/8/94 -0500, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:

```

> The argument stems from this fact viz:

> AN ADDRESS IS NOT A ROUTE

Unfortunately in the PBBS world this is NOT the case. In the Internet world there exist services and sufficient connectivity to allow a mail address to be abstracted from where you are physically located. This is also starting to happen in the Amateur Internet with the increasing use of the DNS and Gateways.

In the PBBS world though there is NO central authority registering domains and bugger all connectivity beyond the next hop. The PBBS authors (and others) dreamed up a geographical based addressing system that does work. It's not beautiful but it is functional.

The problem that we're trying to tackle is one of overlapping name spaces between the Internet and the Amateur PBBS network. It's not the debate of Netrom vs IP. That is a different religious war. :-)

The overlapping name spaces problem would be alleviated by changing the continent code to 4 characters. Then the name spaces would NOT overlap.

And now to switch to that *different* religious war;

> The only advantage that IP has over NETROM seems to be that the
> professionals on the internet have cracked the routing problem by not
> only installing intelligent routers (which we don't appear to have in
> any quantity) and, more importantly, easily accessible and FAST
> directory services (yes and several RFCs defining all this but so what).

They also designed an addressing system that allows you to group large numbers of routes together into a single routing entry. Netrom requires an explicit entry for EVERY node that is to be directly reachable. This is netrom's MAJOR fault.

Carl.

--
Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

4. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: Dirk-Jan Koopman <dkj@dirku.demon.co.uk>
Date: Wed, 3 Aug 1994 09:01:27 +0200 (BST)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <m0qVbGR-0004g8C@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
> Subject: Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Wed, 3 Aug 1994 10:59:56 +1000
>
> At 10:52 AM 1/8/94 -0500, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:
>
> > The argument stems from this fact viz:
>
> > AN ADDRESS IS NOT A ROUTE
>
> Unfortunately in the PBBS world this is NOT the case. In the Internet
> world there exist services and sufficient connectivity to allow a mail
> address to be abstracted from where you are physically located. This is
> also starting to happen in the Amateur Internet with the increasing use of
> the DNS and Gateways.

without going into the 'oh yes it is - oh no it isn't' syndrome - I beg to differ and with a simple UK example.

Here is the UK we have a simple, rigidly applied, geographical numbering scheme. My BBS is in Norfolk (#35) which is SE of Nottingham (#22). There are no longer any direct routes in between (requiem in pace GB7RUT), therefore mail has to travel SW from Nottingham half way across England, then S then E thru London then NE thru Essex and Suffolk and back up to me. In the old days there was a station called GB7WNM (#35) in King's Lynn (about 28 miles due west of me) which could only sensibly be reached by me beaming over the top of him (W) to GB7RUT (#24 and 72 miles) and then him forwarding back (E) via GB7PET (#??) to GB7WNM.

I repeat that an address is not a route, I concede that, if the address is structured reasonably, it can give you a clue as to the best way to go - but still ain't a route. Whilst we are dealing with radio links and terrain this will remain the case.

>
> In the PBBS world though there is NO central authority registering domains

> and bugger all connectivity beyond the next hop. The PBBS authors (and
> others) dreamed up a geographical based addressing system that does work.
> It's not beautiful but it is functional.
>

As far as we in the UK are concerned, it is perfectly possible to have a workable national addressing scheme established by cooperation - if we can do it here why can't anybody else? That should then need some simple intra national scheme for forwarding foreign mail.

I simply don't understand the problem with 2 and 4 letter codes (it doesn't actually make a lot of difference to me either way as it happens). At the moment my forwarding files have NA and NOAM as North America, Namibia still goes to Africa. Er.....?

Lets face it, there is enough flexibility in every author's forwarding code to send mail to at least the right country on prefix alone - anything which constitutes a better clue for a destination is a bonus.

Inter network working is not, in itself, a reasonable excuse to change the existing addressing scheme - it is for those who wish to transport what is a foreign addressed thingy across the internet to sort the addressing problems out.

Any solution which works in the US won't necessarily work in the rest of the world; also do the PBBS boys have any say in the IP addressing scheme to make the transport of SMTP messages easier (and more efficient - LOTS of headers!) over our network :-).

Finally if we are getting a good enough network together (and as far as I am concerned that means decent interlocking radio links) to get a nacent IP based DNS etc together, then we have the infrastructure necessary to have the 'PBBS' version of DNS....

Dirk G1TLH

5. Packet BBS address's

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 3 Aug 1994 16:16:29 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408031535.B9560-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I like about any older bbs sysop am sick and tired of the debate over how a packet bbs should be known. I feel that there is some validity to the idea that we model our address after that used by the Internet. I am a ham tcp/ip station and I have a unique number assigned to me that is 44.30.2.5 and no one else in the world has this number. So we can issue to every Packet BBS an IP number. Since I have 2 now, my bbs can be known as 44.30.2.6 and that settles that.

Small problem: the "standard" ham uses 'callsign.ampr.org' as the letter equivalent of their IP number. The bbs letter equivalent must be somewhat more complex if it is international in scope.

As we all know, internet uses .edu for schools and .com for companies. There is nothing in this to tell a person where the company or school is located. But perhaps we could do it different for our bbs system. We could use our current "locality". "state". "country" and then assign international bbs stations with a "router system". I don't think we would need anything special at most of the in-country BBS. States with large populations will have a "local router system" that reads the IP address in the message To: field. It will know how to route to that IP number.

BBS that want to can get a "domain.txt" on disk that will tranlate between IP numbers and .state and .locality listings much as the Internet does now. A user can ask his bbs for a bbs in Sweetwater, Texas. The bbs will tell him to send mail to 44.76.23.123 in Sweetwater.

Well must run now but will follow up on this idea. It will work I feel and make us look just like the Internet...

karl
k5di

6. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Wed, 3 Aug 94 19:13:07 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408040013.AA108080@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Many thanks, Dirk, for the 'peek' at some of the inner workings of the structure of the forwarding network in the UK.

How did you guys get to the point where you worked all of this out? If you can recount some of the history, that might serve useful for those of us in North America (now is that NOAM or NA?) ;-) hoping to contribute toward a more efficient network.

thanks and 73 de Dave W05H

7. Re: Packet BBS address's

From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
Date: Thu, 4 Aug 1994 00:02:39 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9408040039.D9188-0100000@gauss>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 3 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: Packet BBS address's
> To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Wed, 3 Aug 1994 16:16:29 -0600 (MDT)
>
>
> I like about any older bbs sysop am sick and tired of the debate
> over how a packet bbs should be known. I feel that there is some validity
> to the idea that we model our address after that used by the Internet. I
> am a ham tcp/ip station and I have a unique number assigned to me that is
> 44.30.2.5 and no one else in the world has this number. So we can issue
> to every Packet BBS an IP number. Since I have 2 now, my bbs can be known
> as 44.30.2.6 and that settles that.
>

If we use IP addressing then we might as well send our mail directly to the destination station and use SMTP and avoid the PBBS all together.

73
Tim

```
-----
Tim Baggett, AA5DF          | Countdown to Graduation: 134 days & counting
Las Cruces, New Mexico    | "Ya want fries wid dat hamburger?"
                             |
New Mexico State University | "If you can't run with the big dogs,
Electrical Engineering Student | then stay on the porch"
-----
```

8. Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!

From: djkdirku.demon.co.uk (Dirk-Jan Koopman)
Date: Thu, 4 Aug 1994 09:09:48 +0200 (BST)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <m0qVxs4-0004gAC@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
> Subject: Re: NOAM vs NA -- Let's SOLVE the problem!
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Wed, 3 Aug 94 19:13:07 CDT
>
> Many thanks, Dirk, for the 'peek' at some of the inner workings of the
> structure of the forwarding network in the UK.
>
> How did you guys get to the point where you worked all of this out? If
> you can recount some of the history, that might serve useful for those
> of us in North America (now is that NOAM or NA?) ;-) hoping to
> contribute toward a more efficient network.
>

My address is GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU

We all forward on the #xy.GBR part of the address.

x is the RSGB region (as it happens).
y is a county within a region.

There is no inherent geographical significance in the actual numbers, ie
1 isn't necessarily North of 2.

This system was invented some years ago by G8AS0 (as I remember it) and agreed at a National Sysop meeting (with some subsequent acrimony by a small dedicated minority) but the simplicity of the system meant that it was universally adopted within a month or so of inception.

This system is really a directed hot potato router. When forwarding it is simply necessary to know where to send the major regional stuff eg:

```
H *#1?.GBR*
H *#2?.GBR*
H *#31.GBR*
H *#32.GBR*
H *#33.GBR*
H *#37.GBR*
H *#38.GBR*
H *#39.GBR*
H *#5?.GBR*
H *#6?.GBR*
H *#7?.GBR*
H *#8?.GBR*
```

would have gone west to GB7RUT (now gorn... West)

```
H *#34.GBR*
H *#36.GBR*
```

would have gone to GB7MXM (south east)

and the #35 stuff for internal Norfolk use would have been forwarded by individual callsign to appropriate BBSs locally. In my previous example for one of those (GB7WNM) it meant forwarding back out of county (to GB7RUT) and then him sending it back in via a different route.

What has happened now is that the stuff being sent to GB7RUT is sent to a BBS in SW Norfolk (GB7TDG.#35.GBR.EU) that is then being sent NW to Cambridgeshire (to a point N of an E-W line thru me) thence further N to a BBS on the N-S trunk where it is split up further and distributed accordingly.

The point is that each BBS along the way cooperates with his/her (GB7MXM) neighbours and then sets the routes accordingly, one needs only to speak to one's direct neighbours (not to their neighbours or nationally) to re-route whole tranches of mail.

I can wholeheartedly recommend a similar numerical system, I would have thought it relatively simple to implement in all countries/states (although if you went for such a system in the US it would require more digits (maybe only one))

Hope this helps

Dirk G1TLH

9. Re: Packet BBS address's

```
From: mwestfal@iris.csci.csusb.edu (Michael Westfall)
Date: Thu, 4 Aug 1994 16:52:13 -0700 (PDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408042352.AA28070@iris.csci.csusb.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

In a former treatise, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group spake thusly:

```
->
-> From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
-> >
->
-> If we use IP addressing then we might as well send our mail directly to
-> the destination station and use SMTP and avoid the PBBS all together.
```

OK. Let's do it!

```
-----
73 de Mike,      ax.25net:   N6KUY@W6JBT.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
                  amprnet:   n6kuy@n6kuy.ampr.org [44.18.0.49]
                  internet :  mwestfal@silicon.csci.csusb.edu
                  "Old MacDonald had a farm, dit didit dit didit dahdahdah."
GCS/M { -d+ p+ c++ l u++ e+(*) m++(-) s/+ !n-(---) h-- !f g+ w+ t++ r-(--) y+ }
-----
```

10. ARRL '94 Digital Comm Conf Update 8/4

From: ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM
Date: Thu, 4 Aug 1994 22:34:27 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Cc: ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM
Message-ID: <940804223427.2e400ae8@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

ARRL 13th ANNUAL DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE AUGUST 19-21

Do you operate a Digital mode (maybe Pactor, Packet, GTOR or AMTOR) now?
Is it hard to keep up with the latest Digital technology? Would you like to
know more about Digital modes? If "yes" to any of these questions, then
attend the 13th Annual ARRL Digital Communications Conference.

The Conference will be held on August 19 - 21, 1994 at the Thunderbird
Convention Center, 2201 East 78th Street in Bloomington, Minnesota.
Accommodations are available at the Thunderbird Hotel, at hotels and motels
located nearby, and also at several area RV\camper campgrounds.

Enjoy a weekend of fun learning about the latest developments in TCP/IP,
PACTOR, AMTOR, PACTOR-II, CLOVER, G-TOR, PACKET, DSP, and imaging. Participate
in nine forums about DSP, new HF modes, TCP/IP, VHF/UHF networking, BBS
SYSOP issues and more. A glance at the program (attached) will show many
forums that will catch your interest!

A highlight of the conference will be the presentation of technical papers on
many aspects of digital communications throughout the day, Saturday. A list
of papers is attached. You will receive a copy of all papers presented.

Many demonstrations of the latest in hardware and software will be presented.
The conference kicks off Friday evening with an educational forum "The Basics
of Amateur Digital Communications - A Crash Course for Beginners" with
instructor John Kaplan, WR0W. The Saturday evening Technical Showcase will
feature TAPR Special Interest Group meetings for BBS SYSOPs and on VHF/UHF
network building and a technical presentation on "Low Cost HF DSP Modems" by
Johan Forrer, KC7WW.

The Hospitality Room will provide the place to meet old friends and make
new ones. At Saturday's luncheon you will get to know "who's who" in
digital communications. Meet the Engineering staff of manufacturers like
Kantronics and Timewave Technologies. The optional Saturday evening diner
will provide another opportunity to make new friends.

If you want a break from the Conference, the Mall of America, with hundreds
of unique stores, is located within walking distance. The family will
enjoy Knott's Camp Snoopy theme park inside the Mall. The renowned Minnesota
Zoo is only a short drive away.

The Conference registration fee is \$45 per person, which includes admission to
all Conference activities, a luncheon buffet and a copy of the technical
papers. An optional Saturday evening buffet is \$20 per person additional.
Registration deadline is August 12th.

For more information about the Conference or special Airline and Motel
discounts call or write:

ARRL Digital Communications Conference
C/O Paul Ramey W0G0
16266 Finland Avenue
Rosemount, MN 55068
Packet: W0G0@WA0CQG.#MSP.MN.USA.NA
Telephone: (612) 432-1640
Internet: PRAMEY@RAM.NET

The host of the 1994 ARRL Digital Communications Conference is the TwinsLAN
Amateur Radio Club.

See YOU at the Digital Communications Conference August 19-21!

13th ANNUAL ARRL DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Friday, August 19

TIME		ROOM	EVENT
Noon - 6	PM	TBD	ARRL "Future Modes" Committee meeting.
Noon - 6	PM	TBD	ARRL "219-MHz" Committee meeting.
4 - 10	PM	Winnebago	Conference check-in.
6 PM - 11	PM	Winnebago	Hospitality & Demo area are open.
7 PM - 9:30	PM	Yakima	The Basics of Amateur Digital Communications - A Crash Course for Beginners. Instructor: John Kaplan, WR0W.

Saturday, August 20

TIME		ROOM	EVENT
6:30 - Noon		Winnebago	Hospitality & Demo area open
7:00 - Noon		Winnebago	Conference Check-in.
8:00 - 8:15	AM	Miami	Conference "Welcome"
8:30 - 10:00	AM	Miami	Technical Paper Presentation
8:30 - 10:00	AM	Arapaho	Forum - Developments in DSP For the Amateur. Moderator - Bob Stricklin, N5BRG
8:30 - 10:00	AM	Choctaw	Forum - TCP/IP - What's next? Moderator - Lew Shannon, K0RR
10:00 - 10:15	AM	All	Break
10:15 - 11:45	AM	Miami	Technical Paper Presentation
10:15 - 11:45	AM	Arapaho	Forum - ARRL Committee Updates: "Future Modes": Moderator - Paul Rinaldo W4RI and "219-MHz Networking": Moderator - Tod Olson K0TO
10:15 - 11:45	AM	Choctaw	Forum - Digital Data (Voice and Image) Transmission Method Developments.
11:45 - Noon	AM	All	Break
Noon - 1:00	PM	Miami	Buffet Luncheon (Included)
1:00 - 5:30	PM	Winnebago	Hospitality & Demo area open
1:15 - 2:45	PM	Miami	Technical Paper Presentation
1:15 - 2:45	PM	Arapaho	Forum - High-Speed (above 1200 baud) data transfer methods and networking techniques.
1:15 - 2:45	PM	Choctaw	Forum - HF Data Transmission Methods - An Over-view of Current Modes and What's Coming Next. Moderator - Frank Perkins, WB5IPM
2:45 - 3:00	PM	All	Break
3:00 - 4:30	PM	All	Continuation of all sessions
5:30 - 6:30	PM	Miami	Buffet Diner (Optional)
7:00 - 11:00	PM	Winnebago	Hospitality & Demo area open
7:00 - 10:00	PM	Miami	Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) Presents Packet BBS
			SYSOP Special Interest Group
7:00 - 10:00	PM	Arapaho	Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) Presents VHF/UHF Network
			Building Special Interest Group
7:00 - 10:00	PM	Choctaw	American Digital Radio Society (ADRS) presents a technical presentation: "A Low Cost DSP Modem for HF Digital Experimentation" by Johan Forrer, KC7WW

Sunday, August 21

TIME		ROOM	EVENT
8:30 - Noon		Winnebago	Hospitality & Demo area open
10:00 - 11:00		Winnebago	Conference wrap-up and close.

13th ARRL Digital Communications Conference Proceedings

1. A Proposal for a Standard Digital Radio Interface
Written by Jeffrey Austen, K9JA
2. Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS)

- Written by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR; Presented by Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL
3. Broadcast, UI and un-connected protocols-the future of Amateur Packet Radio?
Written and Presented by Paul Evans, W4/G4BKI
 4. Packet, GPS, APRS and the Future
Written and Presented by Paul Evans, W4/G4BKI
 5. Computer Networks in Africa: From Utopian Discourse to Working Reality
Written by Iain Cook
 6. A Low Cost DSP Modem for HF Digital Experimentation
Written and Presented by Johan Forrer, KC7WW
 7. G-TOR: The Protocol
Written by Mike Huslig, Phil Anderson, Karl Medcalf and Glenn Prescott
Presented by Karl Medcalf and Mike Huslig.
 8. GMON-a G-TOR Monitoring Program for PC Compatibles
Written by Richard Huslig and Phil Anderson, W0XI; Presented by Phil Anderson.
 9. A Theoretical Evaluation of the G-TOR Hybrid ARQ Protocol
Written by Glenn E. Prescott, WB0SKX, And Phil Anderson, W0XI;
Presented by Glenn Prescott
 10. On Fractal Compression of Images for Narrowband Channels and Storage
Written by Witt Kinsner, VE4WK
 11. Fast CELP Algorithm and Implementation for Speech Compression
Written by Armein Langi, VE4ARM
 12. Wavelet Compression for Image Transmission Through Bandlimited Channels
Written by A. Langi, VE4ARM, and W. Kinsner, VE4WK
 13. ROSE X.25 Packet Switch Status Update
Written by Thomas A. Moulton, W2VY
 14. A Primer on Reliability as Applied to Amateur Radio Packet Networks
Written by T.C. McDermott, N5EG
 15. FSK Modem with Scalable Baud Rate
Written by Wolf-Henning Rech, N1EOW, and Gunter Jost, KD7WJ;
Presented by Wolf-Henning Rech, N1EOW.
 16. MacAPRS: Mac Automatic Packet Reporting System-A Macintosh Version of APRS
Written by Keith Sproul, WU2Z, and Mark Sproul, KB2ICI; Presented by Keith Sproul, WU2Z.
 17. Formation of the TAPR Bulletin Board System Special Interest Group
Written by David A. Wolf, W05H; Presented by David A. Wolf, W05H
 18. How Amateur Radio Operators Can Emulate an HF ALE Radio
Written by David R. Wortendyke, N0WGC; Presented by David R. Wortendyke, N0WGC.
 19. A Preview of HF Packet Radio Modem Protocol Performance
Written by Teresa Young, Stephen Rieman, David Wortendyke, N0WGC
presented by David Wortendyke, N0WGC
 20. Designing Rural Telecom Systems for Developing Countries.
Written by Joseph Lishka, KA0NUZ; Presented by Joseph Lishka, KA0NUZ
NOTE: This is a hand-out and not in the ARRL Book.

Rev. 8/3/94

11. Re: Packet BBS address's

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 08:08:54 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408050826.C416-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 4 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
> Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's

> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 4 Aug 1994 00:02:39 -0600 (MDT)
>
> If we use IP addressing then we might as well send our mail directly to
> the destination station and use SMTP and avoid the PBBS all together.
>
> 73
> Tim

Tim as soon as you figure out how to get the mail to Farmington,
NM using other than the bbs network, the US Mail, the telephone then come
back and tell us about your good idea.

BTW Internet is a telephone system.

karl

12. FW: Water for the Flames

From: "Battles, Brian, W150" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Fri, 05 Aug 94 12:25:00 EDT
To: TAPR BBSSIG <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E42689B@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

This definitely looks like something neat to post on PBBSSs.

Have a great weekend!

>From: TRISA BANKS
Subject: 1:105/42 re: Water for the Flames
Date: Thursday, August 04, 1994 6:23PM

"JERK!"

Ron jumped up from his desk and began pacing furiously.
"Stupid self-serving twit!" he bellowed at his computer screen.
A shadow in the doorway startled him.
"Indios? Oh! I wasn't...I mean...sorry if I disturbed you."
Indios was the caretaker and general handyman for the condominium
complex where Ron lived. Rarely did he pay much attention to anything other
than his duties.
"Your sink is fixed," he said with his deep, gravelly voice.
"What upsets you?" the old Indian then asked through lips that barely
moved.
"Ah, I dunno! I'm sick and tired of everyone treating me like dirt!"
His dark, withered face frowning, Indios shuffled his large frame to
an overstuffed chair and sat down.
"How do they do this? I am not understanding."
Ron was surprised. In more than 2 years he had never known Indios to
solicit a conversation.
"Well, some people are real idiots and think they know it all. They
like to lord over other people, pretending they are smarter or better. All
they really have are big mouths! I'm going to start defending myself! I'm
going to be more assertive!"
"Tell to me the difference of you being 'assertive' and them having
'big mouths'?" Indios asked without expression.
Ron didn't answer.
"You sit in front of this for hours," Indios continued, pointing to
the computer on Ron's desk, "and it angers you. How can this be?"
"It started off to be fun," Ron answered, "then everyone started
flaming at each other!"
Ron could see that he was only confusing Indios.
"See, with the computer, a bunch of people can leave messages to each
other. It's like a big hobby for computer buffs. There's an amateur network
I belong to where we can leave mail. It was fun until it became too crowded.
Now everyone just fights with each other. If someone misspells a word,
someone jumps on him. If someone asks a question or has an idea that someone
else thinks is stupid, then the name calling starts. We call it 'flaming'."
Indios grunted and nodded that he understood.
"So, you meet people on your machine so you can get angry at each
other. You go to work and your clubs and get angry at others. Driving your
car makes you angry at others..."
"Exactly!" Ron exclaimed. "Unless you stand up for yourself, someone
will walk all over you! Believe me, when someone shoves it to me, I'm going
to pay them back in spades!"
The Indian brushed his long, white hair back with his weathered hands
and looked sadly at Ron.
"So much anger...this will make you better than them? Anger can at

times be a tool, but like a surgeons knife, it should only be used when all else has failed and the cause is just...only then with great care and control. Most swing this blade recklessly and wound themselves."

"I'm sick and tired of reading this crap! I'm sick and tired of these pious bastards jumping on every little thing I do!"

"Maybe they have a fear...maybe they have a need. The smallest pups always growl the loudest. The others that are secure will allow this because they know these pups have needs that only can be provided for by their pretending dominance. Even with wolves, the strongest and fastest in the pack will allow the pretenders their moments, as they know it is their need and all they can really achieve."

Now Ron was puzzled. "You mean I should just ignore these twinks?! That I should let them say vile things about me and others?!"

"Do they strip you of your honor? Are you denied all dignity? Your family was not threatened, your ability to provide for those who depend on you was not threatened...your honor was not taken."

"I have my pride!"

"Pride is not honor. You must know when NOT to fight before you will ever know when it is proper TO fight. Your words of anger are that of a child. Show me the burial sites of those killed by mere words..."

Ron knew he was losing the debate. This one was face to face and the words had texture, tone and emphasis...not like text written on a flat monitor screen.

"Take what is good with this and all else in life and leave behind what is bad." Indios continued, leaning forward, his eyes fixed in a gaze at Ron. "I know enough about you to say that you were granted neither the natural gift of a powerful body nor a powerful mind at birth. You were granted a more valuable gift, the gift to build whatever body and mind you choose. There are no boundaries for this gift. All you do, every day, in all walks, makes you what you are and what you will be."

Indios then stood and walked to the doorway. Ron remained silent.

"Will you build your body and soul of sound materials or will you use the waste of the earth and become all that you despise?" Indios asked with a hint of a smile as he departed.

Ron strolled slowly back to his desk and sat down in front of the computer. He hit a key to awaken his blank screen and then began rereading the message that had upset him earlier. After a moment he moved on to the next message, leaving the hate unanswered.

He then began a reply to a message from a friend in Puerto Rico. "Take what is good..."

.....
Trisa

uucp: uunet!rain!puddle!74!TRISA.BANKS

Internet: TRISA.BANKS@f74.n105.z1.fidonet.org
.....

CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 The World's Foremost Authority

QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ

Internet bbattles@arrl.org Compu\$erve 70007,3373

MCI 215-5052 Amprnet ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

- - - - -
ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

13. Re: Packet BBS address's

From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 11:41:03 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9408051102.A28907-0100000@gauss>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 5 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 08:08:54 -0600 (MDT)
> Tim as soon as you figure out how to get the mail to Farmington,
> NM using other than the bbs network, the US Mail, the telephone then come
> back and tell us about your good idea.

I am a working on it!

Back to the topic however: If a PBBS can reach Farmington, then why can't SMTP over IP do the exact same thing and easier? So there are no IP stations between Albuquerque and Farmington. What makes the PBBS system any better at getting mail up there? Is there a PBBS station that relays the message?

I still stick to using hammers to drive nails and screwdrivers to turn screws. Using IP addresses for non-IP applications, IMHO, is a bad idea. Lets not use our screddrivers for hammers.

BTW, the system used in GB recently discussed sounds like a worthwhile idea to me! It seems to solve a lot of the problems recently discussed on the list. I will add in the disclaimer that I do not run a PBBS, so I probably do not fully understand the scope of the routing problem (actually, I see no big deal about the NOAM vs NA myself). However I think we should use the right tools.

>
> BTW Internet is a telephone system.

Yup. Cool isn't it? I bow daily in front of the almighty T1 racks, hihi

73
Tim

```
-----
Tim Baggett, AA5DF          | Countdown to Graduation: 133 days & counting
Las Cruces, New Mexico    | "Ya want fries wid dat hamburger?"
                             |
New Mexico State University | "If you can't run with the big dogs,
Electrical Engineering Student | then stay on the porch"
-----
```

14. Re: Packet BBS address's

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 94 12:02:13 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408051202.ZM1853@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 5, 12:21pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 08:08:54 -0600 (MDT)

>
>
>
> On Thu, 4 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

>
> > From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
> > Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> > To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> > Date: Thu, 4 Aug 1994 00:02:39 -0600 (MDT)

> >
> > If we use IP addressing then we might as well send our mail directly to
> > the destination station and use SMTP and avoid the PBBS all together.

> >
> > 73
> > Tim

>
> Tim as soon as you figure out how to get the mail to Farmington,
> NM using other than the bbs network, the US Mail, the telephone then come
> back and tell us about your good idea.

>
> BTW Internet is a telephone system.

Try it to Portland, OR also ... but please use RADIO and not telephone lines. We've been waiting ten years for this to happen, and it hasn't happend. I *do* have a spare HF rig that I can put on air if that might help ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics

Library Operations

15. Re: Packet BBS address's

From: hank_oredson@rainbow.mentorg.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 94 14:28:46 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408051428.ZM2317@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 5, 4:18pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
> Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 11:41:03 -0600 (MDT)
>
> On Fri, 5 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
>
> > From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> > Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> > To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> > Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 08:08:54 -0600 (MDT)
> > Tim as soon as you figure out how to get the mail to Farmington,
> > NM using other than the bbs network, the US Mail, the telephone then come
> > back and tell us about your good idea.
>
> I am a working on it!
>
> Back to the topic however: If a PBBS can reach Farmington, then why can't
> SMTP over IP do the exact same thing and easier? So there are no IP
> stations between Albuquerque and Farmington. What makes the PBBS system
> any better at getting mail up there? Is there a PBBS station that relays
> the message?

Ah. Fundamental misunderstanding of how the BBS network works.
It's not "connected" in the OSI layer 1 through 4 sense, but only
"connected" in the OSI layer 7 sense. i.e. it is store and forward.
smtp requires a tcp/ip connect from end to end.
The "BBS network" does not, and in fact can use AMTOR or CLOVER
on HF as it's transport if it wishes.

> I still stick to using hammers to drive nails and screwdrivers to turn
> screws. Using IP addresses for non-IP applications, IMHO, is a bad idea.
> Lets not use our screddrivers for hammers.

Yes indeed ... an address is an address is an address ...

> BTW, the system used in GB recently discussed sounds like a worthwhile
> idea to me! It seems to solve a lot of the problems recently discussed on
> the list. I will add in the disclaimer that I do not run a PBBS, so I
> probably do not fully understand the scope of the routing problem
> (actually, I see no big deal about the NOAM vs NA myself). However I
> think we should use the right tools.

But don't confuse the address with the connectivity - they have nothing
to do with each other.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

16. Re: FW: Water for the Flames 1:105/42 re: Water for the Flames

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 15:44:04 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408051505.A3814-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 5 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: "Battles, Brian, W1SO" <bbattles@arrrl.org> > Subject: FW: Water
for the Flames > To: TAPR BBSSIG <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu> > Date: Fri, 05 Aug

94 12:25:00 EDT > > > This definitely looks like something neat to post on PBBSs. > > Have a greatleaving the hate unanswered. > He then began a reply to a message from a friend in Puerto Rico. "Take > what is good..." >

This also didn't mention that most of what arrives before my eyes in this and many other echos gets the D that says it all; I don't need to save this as it imparts no information I need or care for. I have flamed others before and in every case felt worse for it.

-karl
k5di

17. Re: Packet BBS address's

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 16:02:34 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408051532.B3814-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 5 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
> Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 11:41:03 -0600 (MDT)

> > Tim as soon as you figure out how to get the mail to Farmington,
> > NM using other than the bbs network, the US Mail, the telephone then come
> > back and tell us about your good idea.
>
> I am a working on it!
>
> Back to the topic however: If a PBBS can reach Farmington, then why can't
> SMTP over IP do the exact same thing and easier? So there are no IP

Main problem is there are no IP stations that allow store and forward along the route. You, because your not a old and wise bbs sysop don't grasp that the only way to reach Farmington is Store and Forward. This means the "device" that is between us and Farmington must be able to accept the whole message, Check that it is correct, and determine where it should go NEXT. I am aware of the smtp trick where you send:

wlia%wlia@w6tyr

This will send the smtp for wlia to w6tyr who MUST know how to reach wlia in 1 hop. Farmington is a 2 hop situation.

> stations between Albuquerque and Farmington. What makes the PBBS system
> any better at getting mail up there? Is there a PBBS station that relays
> the message?
>
> I still stick to using hammers to drive nails and screwdrivers to turn
> screws. Using IP addresses for non-IP applications, IMHO, is a bad idea.

Well Tim you failed to notice that the reason for using noam over na is based on the usage of na in the INTERNET!

>
> >
> > BTW Internet is a telephone system.
>
> Yup. Cool isn't it? I bow daily in front of the almighty T1 racks, hihi
>
> 73
> Tim

Well Tim please BOW daily in front of ME because my tax dollars are paying for all those T1 racks...hi I am happy by the way to see my dollars spent that way. It does lots more good than other ways it's spent...

-karl
k5di

18. Re: Packet BBS address's

From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 22:05:46 -0600 (MDT)

To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9408052246.B2301-0100000@gauss>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 5 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Packet BBS address's
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 5 Aug 1994 16:02:34 -0600 (MDT)
>
> it should go NEXT. I am aware of the smtp trick where you send:
> wlia%wlia@w6tyr

This wasn't what I was talking about. IP routes should always take advantage of the routes that a neighbor has. When IP routing is done correctly it should contain a lot of default routes. You can use IP gatewaying to establish a complete end to end link and then SMTP directly to the destination.

>
> Well Tim you failed to notice that the reason for using noam over
> na is based on the usage of na in the INTERNET!

Yes I obviously do. Ever since the TAPR meeting last March I've been silently reading and listening trying to figure out what the big deal is. Anyone who dumps an amateur PBBS message on the Internet addressed as NIHAM@N2BBS.NY.USA.NA should be kicked in the rear for not using the correct addressing. If you want to send PBBS messages onto the Internet I would suggest readdressing the mail automatically somehow.

Please, someone, what exactly _is_ the problem with NOAM vs NA? I have not seen it yet on this list.

> >
> Yup. Cool isn't it? I bow daily in front of the almighty T1 racks, hihi
>
> Well Tim please BOW daily in front of ME because my tax dollars

Yeah, not very likely there.

> are paying for all those T1 racks...hi I am happy by the way to see my
> dollars spent that way. It does lots more good than other ways it's spent...
>

Yup, tax money gives you the priveledge of Internet gateways, your Internet account through a student run organization etc. Be happy those in charge are still allowing area citizens free Internet access (there are those who want to stop it!)

73
Tim

(BTW, when is the next tax increase? I wanna T3!)

```
-----
Tim Baggett, AA5DF      | Countdown to Graduation: 133 days & counting
Las Cruces, New Mexico |   "Ya want fries wid dat hamburger?"
                        |
New Mexico State University |   "If you can't run with the big dogs,
Electrical Engineering Student |       then stay on the porch"
-----
```

19. Working towards resolution

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 94 23:55:59 CDT
To: bbssig
Message-ID: <9408060456.AA100477@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The focus of the address and flood designator discussion/debate is not whether there is a pathway to a particular place or even how the message moves from point A to point B.

It's coming up with stuff that will work with the software that exists right now today, using the hardware and network that is in place right now today (which is a combo of packet, direct telephone, internet, etc.), which is enough like text so that it sort of makes sense to

sysops and users.

The process of adopting standards is best likened to a distillation process. Lots of messages traverse the ad hoc network that has evolved, so whatever people are doing must be working somehow. We know that it does. Otherwise, we'd be complaining that we never got any messages...

What most realistic folks would like to see, from the myriad of discussions I've participated in personally and vicariously, is reduction if not outright elimination of ambiguities, such as NA and NOAM that represent North America. Once rid of ambiguities, sysops will be able to streamline their setup files and reduce their workloads.

What can this mean for the future? Development of new software and enhancements to current software that allows closer integration between users and BBSs.

What can this mean today? It will make it easier for folks (especially the rank and file) to remember how to address a message and how to list only those items of particular interest.

Less practical but nevertheless important, is to end this discussion which has gone on so long that it is just plain silly, so that we can go on to figure out who to extend the physical network to those areas that would like to be 'connected' to the outside world. by packet...

Resolution of the addressing debate will come when a small group of people, some of them possibly from the universe of folks subscribed to BBSSIG, work out among themselves, a set of standards that the TAPR Board will endorse, and that will probably gain extra credibility if other recognizable entities such as the ARRL Digital Committee, AMSAT, various regional and international groups give it their endorsement, too.

It's time to end, at least on the TAPR BBS SIG, discussion ABOUT doing something about this, and to start postulating good reasons why we should do things a certain way and not another. The p'ssing contest aspect of this can go on indefinitely. There is a ready and inexhaustable source of people willing to debate any subject under the sun. They can and should be found elsewhere. Most folks are here to 'work' or follow the progress of those who work.

We have good outside references for the US state and Canadian provincial postal codes, and there is an international three-letter country code. Is there such a thing as a continental abbreviation standard outside of amateur radio? To what does it apply (electronic communications, post, transportation, etc.)? Are there any potential conflicts with the established address elements? Is the problem that we have heard about in the past with misssent Internet traffic ported from amateur radio big enough to justify a strong international campaign to adopt a four-letter continental standard? If you can identify standards, let's hear from you! The sooner the better.

With serious exchange, it will be possible to get closure on hierarchical addressing and flood designators within about 60 days. I will be working extra hard at the upcoming Digital Conference to recruit some more people to work on this. Contact me (privately if you wish) if you have the time right now to spend on something that will be very helpful to ham radio today and for several years to come.

73 de Dave W05H
(dwolf@tcet.unt.edu)

20. Re: Working towards resolution

From: Edward@ids.net
Date: Sat, 6 Aug 1994 15:51:46 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <940806155146.f91@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Date: Sat, 6 Aug 1994 15:51:43 +0200 (IST)
>From: Edward Sadowski <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Subject: Re: Working towards resolution
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
In-Reply-To: <9408060540.AA104064@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.1.2-VMS-9.9408061557.A3985-0100000@ids.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Sat, 6 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
> Subject: Working towards resolution
> To: bbssig
> Date: Fri, 5 Aug 94 23:55:59 CDT
>
> The focus of the address and flood designator discussion/debate is not
> whether there is a pathway to a particular place or even how the message
> moves from point A to point B.
>
> It's coming up with stuff that will work with the software that exists
> right now today, using the hardware and network that is in place right
> now today (which is a combo of packet, direct telephone, internet,
> etc.), which is enough like text so that it sort of makes sense to
> sysops and users.
>
> The process of adopting standards is best likened to a distillation
> process. Lots of messages traverse the ad hoc network that has evolved,
> so whatever people are doing must be working somehow. We know that it
> does. Otherwise, we'd be complaining that we never got any messages...
>
> What most realistic folks would like to see, from the myriad of
> discussions I've participated in personally and vicariously, is
> reduction if not outright elimination of ambiguities, such as NA and
> NOAM that represent North America. Once rid of ambiguities, sysops
> will be able to streamline their setup files and reduce their workloads.
>
> What can this mean for the future? Development of new software and
> enhancements to current software that allows closer integration between
> users and BBSs.
>
> What can this mean today? It will make it easier for folks (especially
> the rank and file) to remember how to address a message and how to list
> only those items of particular interest.
>
> Less practical but nevertheless important, is to end this discussion
> which has gone on so long that it is just plain silly, so that we can go
> on to figure out who to extend the physical network to those areas that
> would like to be 'connected' to the outside world. by packet...
>
> Resolution of the addressing debate will come when a small group of
> people, some of them possibly from the universe of folks subscribed to
> BBSSIG, work out among themselves, a set of standards that the TAPR
> Board will endorse, and that will probably gain extra credibility if
> other recognizable entities such as the ARRL Digital Committee, AMSAT,
> various regional and international groups give it their endorsement,
> too.
>
> It's time to end, at least on the TAPR BBS SIG, discussion ABOUT doing
> something about this, and to start postulating good reasons why we
> should do things a certain way and not another. The p*ssing contest
> aspect of this can go on indefinitely. There is a ready and
> inexhaustible source of people willing to debate any subject under the
> sun. They can and should be found elsewhere. Most folks are here to
> 'work' or follow the progress of those who work.
>
> We have good outside references for the US state and Canadian provincial
> postal codes, and there is an international three-letter country code.
> Is there such a thing as a continental abbreviation standard outside of
> amateur radio? To what
> does it apply (electronic communications, post, transportation, etc.)?
> Are there any potential conflicts with the established address
> elements? Is the problem that we have heard about in the past with
> missent Internet traffic ported from amateur radio big enough to justify
> a strong international campaign to adopt a four-letter continental
> standard? If you can identify standards, let's hear from you! The
> sooner the better.
>
> With serious exchange, it will be possible to get closure on
> hierarchical addressing and flood designators within about 60 days. I
> will be working extra hard at the upcoming Digital Conference to recruit
> some more people to work on this. Contact me (privately if you wish) if
> you have the time right now to spend on something that will be very
> helpful to ham radio today and for several years to come.

>
> 73 de Dave W05H
> (dwolf@tcet.unt.edu)
>
>
Thank you, David, for your clear and direct comments regarding this discussion which indeed has gone past the point of "beating a dead horse." Don't think for a moment, however, that this type of discussion is limited to amateurs or engineers. I am subjected to this very same sort of thing by the "ivory-tower" gurus in the field of education who rather enjoy hearing themselves talk about impractical theoretical practices, but never having had spent a day in a public school classroom! What we need now is action indeed rather than the incredible torrent of babble to which we've been subjected!

73, Ed Sadowski, K1BYV
Coventry, RI

21. naom - is this how this started?? (fwd)

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Sat, 6 Aug 1994 16:50:08 -0500 (CDT)
To: tapr bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408061650.aa07950@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>
>
> F: KD30@KD30.MD.USA.NA
>
> This is a copy of W3IWI's (Tom's) bulletin on NOAM vs NA he sent out a few
> years ago you mentioned.
> 73's Jim KD30 @ KD30.MD.USA
> -----
>
> Several people have asked about the .NOAM appearing in the W3IWI message
> head-
> ers. Rather than answer the inquiries separately, I thought it would be
> useful
> to circulate the text of one of the papers I presented at the September ARRL/
> CRRL 9th Networking Conference held in London, Ontario (with a few minor
> changes and updates). So far I have had no complaints about my use of
> .NOAM
> and a few others (including TI0PAQ in .CEAM) have started following the
> suggestion.
>
> 73, Tom
>
>
>
> _____
> Some comments on the "H"ierarchical Continent Address Designator
>
> _____
>
> Tom Clark, W3IWI
> 6388 Guilford Road
> Clarksville, MD 21029
>
>
> At the risk of opening Pandora's Box, this note suggests a change in the 2-
> character continent designator portion of the PBBS "H" hierarchical address
> field. An example would be the North America .NA portion of the packet ad-
> dress,
>
>
> K9DOG @ W6SIX.DE.USA.NA
>
>
> Let me state at the outset that I'm not convinced that we need to use the
> continent field. It seems to me that the country field by itself is adequate
> and that the packet BBSes can easily keep track of all the countries in the
> world. Let me also state that many of the issues addressed here arise because
> of constant confusion between the functions of addressing and routing.
>
> The correct continent to assign to many countries of the world is confusing
> and/or ambiguous. To cite some examples of problems which have already been
> identified:
>
> - 5B4=Cyprus in the Mediterranean is listed by the IARU (for WAC)
> and the ITU as Asia. Ditto 4X=Israel and JY=Jordan in the middle
> East.
>
>

> - Both TA=Turkey and the Soviet Union have part of their coun-
> ties in Europe and part in Asia. 8Q6=Maldives is listed as both
> Africa and Asia. Several other countries are also "split".
>

> - Although DU=Philippines and YB=Indonesia are regarded as Asiatic
> countries, they are listed as Oceania, along with Australia and
> Hawaii. If you venture to 9M=Malasia, you may be in either Ocea-
> nia or Asia.
>

> - The Central American and Carribean countries are nearly all part
> of North America, including YV0, but not 9Y. Anyone care to guess
> what continent the southern part of HP=Panama is in?
>

> If the purpose of the continent portion of the "H"ierarchical address is to
> facilitate delivery of messages, then it is illogical to route Israeli and
> Jordanian traffic through the Orient. It is illogical to make automated rout-
> ing decisions for messages to Turkish amateurs based on whether the addressee
> is on the east or west side of the Straits of Bosphorus.
>

> Stations in Israel and Cyprus already face this dilemma. Rather than using
> a .AS Asian address, they choose to use .EU European designator to avoid
> having their packet mail routed via the Orient. Some have suggested the
> use of
> a new continent designator other than .AS; One suggestion has been .ME
> (Middle
> East) but this has a serious conflict with the state of Maine.
>

> The Central Americans and the Carribean are both "legally" .NA but feel they
> need a separate geographic identity and both areas have independently
> suggest-
> ed the use of .CA but this would conflict with .CA state.
>

> All this leads to my suggestion that the present 2-letter continent
> designator
> must be changed. Either:
>

> (1). The present 2-character designator should be dropped because it
> it not really needed and there are too many ambiguities. Users
> will always try to use address quirks to force routing, so don't
> give them the chance to foul things up. The computers at the
> international mail gateways can easily handle the entire DXCC
> list.
>

> - or -
>

> (2). A new logical regional designator which allows sub-continent
> sized regions should be adopted.
>

> If a new, more flexible scheme is to be adopted, I'd suggest that new 4-
> character designators be chosen:
>

- > - .NOAM, .SOAM, .CEAM, .CARB replacing the present .NA & .SA and
> solving the Central American and Carribean problem,
- > - .ASIA replacing .AS for the Orient,
- > - .MDLE for the middle-eastern countries like 4X, JY etc.,
- > - Oceania divided into smaller areas like .NPAC, .SPAC, .AUST,
- > - The Indian ocean (now partly in .OC and partly in .AF) be desig-
> nated .INDI,
- > - .AFRI replacing .AF for Africa; .EURO replacing .EU for Europe,
- > - .ANTR added for Antarctica,
- > - Additional new designators added as needed for sub-continent
> sized logical areas.

>

> This scheme affords the logic of a 2-character field (.MD) for the
> "state", 3
> characters (.USA, .ZAF, .JPN etc.) for the country, & 4 (.AFRI) for the
> conti-
> nent/subcontinent, and it avoids conflicts between state and province-sized

```

> areas and continents. Who knows, a few decades hence a 5 character field
> (.EARTH, .VENUS) may be needed too!
>
>
> [Note: Because of issues raised in this note, the W3IWI PBBS does
> not use the .NA continent designator on any of its own transac-
> tions, although it transparently passes any originated
> elsewhere].
>
> ----- end of bulletin by w3iwi -----
>
>
>
> I am NOT agreeing with NAOM, but perhaps this is how it started...
> (BTW, I use NA til ARRL says there is another standard to go by)
> w3iwi says no one has complained abt NAOM - There's alot of pro/con
> going on
> --
> 73
> =====
> Robert Wood
> WB5CRG
> w5robert@blkbox.com (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc.!)
> w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu
> =====

```

22. Thoughts on BBS addressing

From: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@tntech.edu>
 Date: Sat, 06 Aug 1994 22:50:59 -0500 (CDT)
 To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
 Message-ID: <01HFLSG8SC0I90CYAZ@tntech.edu>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Here are some thoughts on the BBS addressing system requirements.

The change (if any) should be gradual because new and old style addresses will have to coexist for some time as software and routing tables are updated. There should, however, be a cutoff date after which all systems are expected to use the new addressing system.

All fields in the address should be significant, not just the callsign.

Optional fields in the address are undesirable.

Addresses entered into a message should **never** be changed. All messages should automatically have a valid return address attached. If a message is undeliverable it should be returned to the sender.

The BBS network is unique. It is not the Internet nor any other network. If mail is to be gatewayed to another network it should be indicated in the address (e.g., joe%host.university.edu@gate.alaaa.#wherever.ct.usa.noam).

It is desirable to merge the BBS network with the amateur radio TCP/IP network, at least in terms of mail addressing. (This may not be possible at this time, but we should at least try.)

The highest levels, country and higher, of the address should be standardized but the specific format within a country should be decided by the people within that country.

It is desirable for the BBS address to not be misinterpretable as an Internet address. (That is, don't use NA, etc.)

Jeff, k9ja

23. Re: naom - is this how this (fwd)

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
 Date: Sat, 6 Aug 94 23:40:09 CDT
 To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
 Message-ID: <9408070440.AA124903@tcet.unt.edu>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks for uploading the text of Tom's paper. He sent a copy to me right after Dayton and I've been slowly assembling a collection of additional papers on the subject for the past few months. They will probably be archived with the TAPR stuff (with internet access). I will make copies and have them available at the Digital Conference in Minneapolis.

24. Re: Thoughts on BBS addressing

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
 Date: Sun, 7 Aug 1994 08:13:52 -0600 (MDT)
 To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408070838.C21200-0100000@kazak>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 6 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@tntech.edu>
 > Subject: Thoughts on BBS addressing
 > To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
 > Date: Sat, 06 Aug 1994 22:50:59 -0500 (CDT)

Stuff removed.

>
 > The BBS network is unique. It is not the Internet nor any other
 > network. If mail is to be gatewayed to another network it should be
 > indicated in the address
 > (e.g., joe%host.university.edu@gate.alaaa.#wherever.ct.usa.noam).

YES! That is how you do inter-network switching.

> It is desirable to merge the BBS network with the amateur radio TCP/IP
 > network, at least in terms of mail addressing. (This may not be
 > possible at this time, but we should at least try.)
 >
 > It is desirable for the BBS address to not be misinterpretable as an
 > Internet address. (That is, don't use NA, etc.)
 >
 > Jeff, k9ja
 >
 >

Darn it Jeff, it does not matter if some YaHo tries to forward a
 bbs message over the Internet. As you said above the inter-network thing
 is where this happens. Don't even think about whether our address looks
 like any other. It is truly unimportant.

karl
 k5di

25. packet-radio

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
 Date: Sun, 7 Aug 1994 12:52:37 -0500 (CDT)
 To: tapr bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <9408071252.aa14594@blkbox.COM>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

There is also a packet-radio reflector (tie with Usenet?)
 to subscribe send a message to
 listserv@ucsd.edu
 in the body of the message put
 subscribe packet-radio
 (not much traffic)

--

73

=====

Robert Wood
 WB5CRG
 w5robert@blkbox.com (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc.)
 w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu
 =====

26. Re: Thoughts on BBS addressing

From: Douglas Fajardo <dfajardo@netcom.com>
 Date: Mon, 8 Aug 1994 01:10:30 -0700 (PDT)
 To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408080004.A11071-0100000@netcom2>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

I Liked (and agreed with) MOST of jeffery's comments on Sat Aug 6,
 but there were two items that beg further discussion:

> Addresses entered into a message should *never* be changed. All

> messages should automatically have a valid return address attached. If
> a message is undeliverable it should be returned to the sender.

This policy is, IMHO, way too pedantic. Yes, I've heard all the
cries of 'censorship', but two overriding points come to mind -

(1) An amateur BBS belongs to the sysop (I assume
sysop=owner=license holder for purposes of this discussion) of the system
and no one else. His is the final say on what goes thru his system. If we
attempt to say anything else, we attempting to deny the reality of the
situation - and the 'standard' will end up failing :(. Admittedly, on well
run (probably most) BBS systems this 'moderation' is minimized or not even
visible, but it does exist.

(2) EVEN THE POST OFFICE will modify an address on an envelope on
occasion in order to deliver it properly. (Personal Anecdote - I've
received mis-addressed mail - including in one case a wrong zip code!)

>
> The highest levels, country and higher, of the address should be
> standardized but the specific format within a country should be decided
> by the people within that country.

I think that this mandates using a FULL H. address - ie: one that
starts with the destination BBS call sign, and ends with the country
identifier. There is no way for a sender to guarantee that a message will
not be handled by a station which might gateway world wide. Is this an
intended consequence, and is it acceptable - or does the addressing system
become too unwieldy to use ? (I'm NOT objecting... just exploring the
implications. :)

27. FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.

From: Barry <SYS_BJB%AFDS@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Date: Fri, 12 Aug 1994 15:07:30 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <01HFTQXL4S1U96XJBS@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Petition to the Federal Communications Commission

Specific minor modifications to Part 97 are required to address applicability
to digital modes and the Message Forwarding System.

Discussion

The popularity of digital networks in amateur radio has grown rapidly.
Recently, the FCC has taken actions to address the regulation of technical
issues and operating practices which have developed using these new modes.

One area which has not been addressed by the recent rule changes is the
area of broadcasting and bulletins. Sections of Part 97 address these
areas, but the rules were written in terms which most literally apply
to real-time transmissions. No provision is made to apply the intent
of the rules to digital modes.

This petition requests that existing policy regarding broadcasting and
bulletins be specifically applied to digital modes and the Message Forwarding
System.

For example, current policy would prohibit a station from broadcasting
jokes or cooking recipes in the 20 meter phone band. Such activity would
be unacceptable from both a regulatory as well as a good operating practices
viewpoint.

Good operating practices are less well defined in Message Forwarding Systems.
It has become common for some stations to generate one way messages which
are outside the definition of Information Bulletin. Personal computers
linked to the ad-hoc network have resulted in a flood of these bulletins.
This activity can be described as "desk top broadcasting" and while it
may be fully acceptable on wired networks, it is not on the amateur networks.
Unfortunately, the regulation is not interpreted as applying to all forms
of transmission.

Two elements of Part 97 apply to this situation. The definition of
broadcasting 97.3(a)(10) prohibits the use of amateur bands for one way
communications to the general public. Authorized communications in are
discussed in 97.111 and section 97.3(a)(23) defines Information Bulletin.

These provisions have not been applied to Message Forwarding Systems and a clear link needs to be established between authorized communications and the Messaging Forwarding Systems.

Proposed Modifications

97.3 Definitions.

(a) ***

(10) Broadcasting. Transmission intended for reception by the general public, either direct or relayed, regardless of transmission mode.

Proposed New Sections

97.111 Authorized transmissions.

(b) ***

(8) Provisions of this section shall apply to transmissions both in real time and to the Message Forwarding Systems.

Your constructive comments are welcome. I should be available at the Digital Conf to discuss this. It goes in the mail Aug 22.

Barry Buelow WA0RJT
Packet: WA0RJT.IA.USA Cedar Rapids, IA
CI\$: 71664,227
Internet: "sys_bjb%afds@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com"

28. Proposal

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Sat, 13 Aug 94 16:52:02 EDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408131652.tn1059217@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I find Barry's proposal (at least I THINK it's Barry's!) interesting.

Overall, I believe there needs to be some further discussion WRT a couple of assumptions that have, perhaps incorrectly, been made.

Forgive me for pulling this out of context:

>>It has become common for some stations to generate one way messages which
>>are outside the definition of Information Bulletin.

This is particularly interesting to me, because -- prior to being fired by ARRL HQ -- I had discussion about this very matter with both Dave Sumner and Paul Rinaldo. I never could succeed in getting either of them to understand that the VAST majority of digital "bulletin" transmissions are absolutely NOT one-way. Perhaps I'll have better luck with you folks.

Consider what usually happens. In better than 99 percent of all cases, a so-called bulletin (or ANY message on packet, Amtor, Pactor, Gtor, CLOVER, etc, BB systems) is NOT, repeat NOT sent "one way", that is, out into the ether, with no intent to actually enter into a two-way amateur radio communication.. Such a transmission would in fact be a broadcast; I think we can all agree with that. But the typical digital "bulletin" is sent from one TNC to another. Or, arguably, from one control operator to another.

Now go back and read that penultimate sentence again. Please?

Thus, I believe that discussing, or proposing, matters relating to digital one way transmissions with the FCC are, um, moot. Why? Because they just aren't happening. There's certainly plenty of other Part 97 rules that are broken; why lead FCC to believe that we're looking to fix things that AREN'T broken? Their VERY likely response would be to dismiss it out of hand.

Finally, let me put the preceding blabberings into a simple, coherent one-sentence statement:

Since far more than 99% of all digital "bulletins" are not, in any sense of the words, broadcasts or one-way transmissions, there's no need to petition FCC to either 'allow' them to occur or prohibit them..

>>This activity can be described as "desk top broadcasting"

Nope. Uh-uh. See above.

Obviously, amateurs (well, with the exception of one in Belgrade Lakes Maine, and a BUNCH in Newington CT, anyway) are happy with the notion of having rules that prohibit broadcasting. FB.

But if we're trying to somehow cut back on the flood of BBS bulletin traffic, adjusting Part 97 is probably not the way to do it...

Finally, let me put the preceding blabberings into a simple, coherent one-sentence statement:

Since far more than 99% of all digital "bulletins" are not, in any sense of the words, broadcasts or one-way transmissions, there's no need to petition FCC to either 'allow' them to occur or prohibit them..

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA but **NOT** ARRL

29. Proposal

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Sat, 13 Aug 94 16:52:02 EDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408131652.tn1059217@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I find Barry's proposal (at least I THINK it's Barry's!) interesting.

Overall, I believe there needs to be some further discussion WRT a couple of assumptions that have, perhaps incorrectly, been made.

Forgive me for pulling this out of context:

>>It has become common for some stations to generate one way messages which >>are outside the definition of Information Bulletin.

This is particularly interesting to me, because -- prior to being fired by ARRL HQ -- I had discussion about this very matter with both Dave Sumner and Paul Rinaldo. I never could succeed in getting either of them to understand that the VAST majority of digital "bulletin" transmissions are absolutely NOT one-way. Perhaps I'll have better luck with you folks.

Consider what usually happens. In better than 99 percent of all cases, a so-called bulletin (or ANY message on packet, Amtor, Pactor, Gtor, CLOVER, etc, BB systems) is NOT, repeat NOT sent "one way", that is, out into the ether, with no intent to actually enter into a two-way amateur radio communication.. Such a transmission would in fact be a broadcast; I think we can all agree with that. But the typical digital "bulletin" is sent from one TNC to another. Or, arguably, from one control operator to another.

Now go back and read that penultimate sentence again. Please?

Thus, I believe that discussing, or proposing, matters relating to digital one way transmissions with the FCC are, um, moot. Why? Because they just aren't happening. There's certainly plenty of other Part 97 rules that are broken; why lead FCC to believe that we're looking to fix things that AREN'T broken? Their VERY likely response would be to dismiss it out of hand.

Finally, let me put the preceding blabberings into a simple, coherent one-sentence statement:

Since far more than 99% of all digital "bulletins" are not, in any sense of the words, broadcasts or one-way transmissions, there's no need to petition FCC to either 'allow' them to occur or prohibit them..

>>This activity can be described as "desk top broadcasting"

Nope. Uh-uh. See above.

Obviously, amateurs (well, with the exception of one in Belgrade Lakes Maine, and a BUNCH in Newington CT, anyway) are happy with the notion of having rules that prohibit broadcasting. FB.

But if we're trying to somehow cut back on the flood of BBS bulletin traffic, adjusting Part 97 is probably not the way to do it...

Finally, let me put the preceding blabberings into a simple, coherent one-sentence statement:

Since far more than 99% of all digital "bulletins" are not, in any sense of the words, broadcasts or one-way transmissions, there's no need to petition FCC to either 'allow' them to occur or prohibit them..

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA but **NOT** ARRL

30. Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Mon, 15 Aug 1994 13:04:30 -0400
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Cc: sys_bjb%afds@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com
Message-ID: <199408152031.AA03848@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I disagree STRONGLY with this petition for several reasons.

First of all, and probably most important, anytime one asks the FCC for a ruling a regulations one is then completely bound by THEIR interpretation of reality -- and the way the FCC sees things is often quite different than the way we see things.

Second, I completely disagree with the underlying premise that packet radio bulletins are one-way transmissions, and especially with the concept that they are intended for the general public.

With the exception of UI frames, all packet transmissions are part of a packet connection and therefore two-way. If a user of my PBBS wishes to send a bulletin addressed to ALL@USBBS, for example, he/she will CONNECT with my PBBS to send the message. Then my station will CONNECT to other PBBS stations and offer the message. If the other PBBS accepts the message mine will send it.

Each transmission is part of a two-way communication.

And as far as broadcasting goes -- where does the general public enter into this? The general public cannot log into a packet radio BBS to read messages! Each and every packet bulletin has an implied "To Radio Amateurs Active On Packet"!!!

At 06:46 PM 8/12/94 CDT,Barry <SYS_BJB%AFDS@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>, wrote:

>For example, current policy would prohibit a station from broadcasting
>jokes or cooking recipes in the 20 meter phone band. Such activity would
>be unacceptable from both a regulatory as well as a good operating
>practices viewpoint.

Excuse me? If I'm part of a net, or in QSO with another station, I can certainly swap jokes, recipies, humor, etc. on 14 MHz SSB!! In fact, many would say that such a QSO is superior to one limited to name, QTH, rig and weather.

>It has become common for some stations to generate one way messages which
>are outside the definition of Information Bulletin.

They are NOT "one way" as far as Part 97 is concerned, and in my opinion should never be considered so.

>This activity can be described as "desk top broadcasting" and while it
>may be fully acceptable on wired networks, it is not on the amateur networks.

"Broadcasting" has a very narrow definition in Part 97, and it should stay that way! And why aren't these messages acceptable on the amateur network? Is it because of throughput? then the answer is to improve the network, not to make the messages illegal.

And how do DX PacketClusters fit in uner these proposed rules? DX spots are aimed at the general public exactly the same way a bullein offering a Yaesu HT for sale is.

If rules such as those proposed here are adopted I'll be taking all my systems off the air because I have absolutely no desire to support a network which is simply providing email.

I suspect many others will do the same.

If our goal is to kill Amateur Packet Radio then by all means file this petition! However, if the goal is to further Packet Radio then lets get back to improving our network(s).

73, Andy

--

```

      Andrew Funk, KB7UV
| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com      Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.nli.ny.usa |
|                               --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |

```

31. Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 15 Aug 1994 18:58:35 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <199408152358.SAA24956@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to TAPR BBS Special Interest Group:

```
> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
> Subject: Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Mon, 15 Aug 1994 13:04:30 -0400
>
> I disagree STRONGLY with this petition for several reasons.
```

I agree with you 100%. Asking the FCC is the last thing anyone wants to do.

A ruling from the FCC will always make no one happy...while it would set a standard -- it is not bad to have grey areas of operations. This is suppose to be fun, not commercial communications.

We have set a bad standard over the last number of years -- that of having more regulation placed on amateur radio, while other areas are moving towards less regulation.

Part 15 is unregulated and unlicensed. Amateur Radio is licensed and continues to have more regulation. A license says that we should take responsibility for our operational methods, but the FCC keeps telling us what we must do, because we keep asking them to do it to us.

If we ask - they will give us what we ask for. More regulation.

I guess my question is -- 'Why ask the FCC for a ruling on this issue ?'

Regulation does not correct educational issues. Most of our current problems in any of our hobby aspects (if you want to call it a problem) is educational in nature.

greg

32. Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.

From: Brian Lane <blane@squeaky.free.org>
Date: Mon, 15 Aug 1994 20:18:48 -0500 (CDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408152057.A28079-010000@squeaky.free.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 15 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```
> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
> Subject: Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Mon, 15 Aug 1994 13:04:30 -0400
>
> I disagree STRONGLY with this petition for several reasons.
>
> First of all, and probably most important, anytime one asks the FCC for a
> ruling a regulations one is then completely bound by THEIR interpretation of
> reality -- and the way the FCC sees things is often quite different than the
> way we see things.
>
```

> Second, I completely disagree with the underlying premise that packet radio
> bulletins are one-way transmissions, and especially with the concept that
> they are intended for the general public.

>
> I suspect many others will do the same.
>
> If our goal is to kill Amateur Packet Radio then by all means file this
> petition! However, if the goal is to further Packet Radio then lets get
> back to improving our network(s).
>

This petition disturbed me also. I am preparing to take my no-code
license test so that I can set up a 2m PBBS and get involved in packet
radio. If these rule changes are implemented, what would be the point of
me getting a license if I cannot do much of anything with it? I might as
well become a pirate!

I thought the main point of being a ham was exploration of new methods,
making things better. How can this be accomplished if the FCC is going to
be so restrictive?

Brian

```
-----  
Linux : The choice of a GNU generation      | finger blane@free.org  
witty comments pending                     | for PGP key and subLit  
-----
```

33. Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.

From: rkudson@rahul.net
Date: Mon, 15 Aug 94 17:50:38 PDT
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <4.01UT.940815181132.rkudson@office>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to TAPR BBS Special Interest Group:
>> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
>> Subject: Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.
>> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
>> Date: Mon, 15 Aug 1994 13:04:30 -0400
>>
>> I disagree STRONGLY with this petition for several reasons.

AND

>From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
>Subject: Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.
>To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
>Date: Mon, 15 Aug 1994 18:58:35 -0500 (CDT)

>A ruling from the FCC will always make no one happy...while it would set a
>standard -- it is not bad to have grey areas of operations. This is suppose
>to be fun, not commercial communications.

I also STRONGLY disagree. No petition should be submitted!

Both Frank and Andrew are right on the money with their comments.

I think it comes down to the bottom line of communication from amateurs to and for other
amateurs. If that is the intent of the communications then part 97 should be satisfied.

I too, would find no fun in packet radio if it were only an E-mail bbs. As it exists now the
system is no different than a 'BIG' net. The check it process is nothing more than checking in
to you home BBS. If some amateur doesn't want to check in, that's his/her choice, just as an
amateur may chose not to check in to the Saturday morning Rocky Mountain HF Net.

Generally, the only reason a person wants something regulated is to force other people to
do it their way.

73 de Bob,

```
-----  
ax.25net: K06AQ@N0ARY.#NOCA.CA.USA.NA  
amprnet: ko6aq@ko6aq.ampr.org [44.4.20.10]  
internet: rkudson@rahul.net  
-----
```

34. Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 08:32:03 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408160832.A18135-0100000@dec>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 15 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
> Subject: Re: FCC Petition for clarification of one-way transmissions.
>
> I disagree STRONGLY with this petition for several reasons.

I agree with that.

> First of all, and probably most important, anytime one asks the FCC for a
> ruling a regulations one is then completely bound by THEIR interpretation of
> reality -- and the way the FCC sees things is often quite different than the
> way we see things.

This is the scary truth...

> Second, I completely disagree with the underlying premise that packet radio
> bulletins are one-way transmissions, and especially with the concept that
> they are intended for the general public.

This is what I thought was important. When I get on packet, and connect to another station, it's as if I had a QSO on voice with this person. I do, sometimes tell clean jokes on the air to a friend. I have heard others on the air debate stuff, just like on packet. I find nothing wrong with this.

> If our goal is to kill Amateur Packet Radio then by all means file this
> petition! However, if the goal is to further Packet Radio then lets get
> back to improving our network(s).

This may be his goal... I don't know for sure... But the last thing packet needs right now is more restrictions...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****  
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *  
* Internet: wlb@saturn.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *  
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****  
* Packet : n3jix@k9iu.#sil.il.usa.na Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *  
*****
```

35. Petition - Additional Clarification

From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 12:03:54 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <01HFZ5T80FB699DMDK@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

First of all, thanks to all who replied. All the comments I received were applicable to the topic. Let me clarify my position with another example or two.

For purposes of this discussion, let me use the term "packet" to as being representative of all digital modes.

FCC Authorized 1 way and 2 way Communications

There is some confusion over what is currently authorized. I want to point out that I do not believe that unconnected packets are "broadcasting" in the traditional sense. That is, transmission of packets, connected or unconnected, are not meant for the general public. This general public issue needs to be brought into the discussion in order to cover all the bases.

Part 97 FACTS

Everyone should really take out Part 97 and read what is authorized. (97.111) Also note that 97.3(a)(23) defines Information Bulletin. A text file is available from the ARRL server. Note that it is a 1992 copy! I'll not repeat the rules here but, if you do intend to participate in

this discussion, you should KNOW the facts.

The following is a set of scenarios which reflect what is currently authorized in Part 97 and what I propose to change. In order to make the discussion more realistic, I will use a topic which will enhance the example.

1. Current HF

While these conditions apply to all frequencies, consider that these events are occurring on 20 meters phone.

1.1 2 Way

It is entirely legal for two stations to debate abortion.

1.2 1 Way

It is NOT legal for a station to transmit a message or bulletin advocating or opposing abortion. 97.111(b)(6) and 97.3(a)(23).

2. Current Packet

Consider that these scenarios are on 2 meter packet.

2.1 2 Way

2.1.1 2 Stations connected with real liver operators on each station.

It is legal for two stations to debate abortion; connected or unconnected. Since a network usually involves a 2 way connected path, the exchange may be conducted via a network.

2.1.2 User to a BBS - Personal Mail

A station MAY send a connected msg to a network advocating or opposing abortion.

2.1.3 User to a BBS - Bulletin

A station MAY send a connected BULLETIN to a network advocating or opposing abortion.

Note: there is no distinction made in the regulations between 2.1.2 and 2.1.3.

2.2 1 Way

A station MAY NOT send an unconnected packet containing a msg/bltn on abortion. This is exactly the same situation described in 1.2 above.

A "network" based on unconnected packets could NOT legally accept this bltn and process it.

Discussion

So a bltn "SB ABORT @ ALLUSA" is entirely legal because it is a 2 way transmission.

This is the crux of the matter. Simply stated, I believe that a bulletin transmitted on packet (networks) should fall under the same restrictions which are currently imposed on 20 meter phone. This position requires no justification. There is no technical debate on the merits of one scheme or another. It is purely a matter of choice.

The FCC has a policy on bulletins. I do not propose any change to existing policy. However, that policy is being circumvented by a technological characteristic which was not foreseen at the time of the rules were written. Exactly the same situation as HF unattended operation.

3. Proposed HF

None.

4. Proposed Packet

Policy: stations operating in a network shall conform to the same rules as stations which are not part of a network. Only information bulletins may introduced into a network.

Discussion

If you can't live with the existing policy, then you are entirely welcome to try and change it. I am only addressing an issue of applicability.

My task is to propose the wording which would implement this position in Part 97.

My sincere thanks to those who have responded and I'll continue to be available to discuss this issue.

Barry Buelow WA0RJT

Barry Buelow WA0RJT
Packet: WA0RJT.IA.USA Cedar Rapids, IA
CIS: 71664,227
Internet: "sys_bjb%afds@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com"

36. Example of a bulletin?

From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 12:13:26 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <01HFZ661FQCI99DNW1@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Rules on networks deal strictly with the header address/destination for each individual packet.

Network operations are NOT goverened by the header but by instructions with the text area of the message.

Consider a packet in a connected session:

<To:W0BBS> <From:WA0RJT> <SB ABORT @ ALLUSA| I'm for/against...>

What does the FCC think this is?

Barry Buelow WA0RJT
Packet: WA0RJT.IA.USA Cedar Rapids, IA
CIS: 71664,227
Internet: "sys_bjb%afds@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com"

37. KaNode forwarding scripts for AA4RE bbs

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 13:22:48 -0400 (EDT)
To: BBSSIG@tcet.unt.edu
Cc: EDSADOW@ids.net
Message-ID: <940816132248.1224@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Dear fellow AA4RE sysops:

Although the following info may be redundant for most, if not all, of you, it is being sent because it does not appear in Roy's FWD.DOC file. It has been compiled by both the process of OJT trial-and-error and Roy's gracious help and time with me on the telephone. It may be wise to insert this info into the fwd.doc file after the NET/ROM forwarding script example(s). If this info is able to help just ONE person, I will have considered my effort a great success. Please note that some versions of AA4RE do not recognize nor execute the "W" (Wait for) script statement. In those cases, it will be necessary to insert the appropriate "R" lines as needed. Good luck!

73, Ed Sadowski, K1BYV, sysop Region One Army MARS BBS AT1TFC

Forwarding through KA-Nodes

KA-Nodes present a special problem because they return additional lines which must be included in the script as "R" lines. For example:

```
C NODE1
SC KANODE
R* to *
R*CONNECTED TO *          <---- Must be EXACTLY as seen here!
R*                        <---- Optional - may not be present.
RENTER*                   <---- Must be EXACTLY as seen here!
SC NODE2
R*LINK MADE               <---- Must be EXACTLY as seen here!
SC Z6ZZZ
R* to *
```

A simpler solution follows:

```
C NODE1
SC KANODE
R* to *
WENTER*                   <---- This solves the "R" statement problems.
SC NODE2
R*LINK MADE
SC Z6ZZZ
R* to *
```

For a direct connect to a KA-Node:

```
C KANODE
WENTER*
SC NODE (or next callsign)
R*LINK MADE
```

Further lines may be added as needed - see above examples.

38. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 14:52:01 -0400
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Cc: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Message-ID: <199408162219.AA07174@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I still (no surprise!) disagree with Barry...

At 02:38 PM 8/16/94 CDT, Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com> wrote:

```
>
>FCC Authorized 1 way and 2 way Communications
>
>
>There is some confusion over what is currently authorized.
```

Maybe it's confusing to some...

If a message is transmitted by one station to another station it is not broadcasting, and anything that's legal to say on the air is legal to be in the message. Period.

```
> I want to
>point out that I do not believe that unconnected packets are "broadcasting"
>in the traditional sense. That is, transmission of packets, connected
>or unconnected, are not meant for the general public.
```

OK so far...

```
> This general public
>issue needs to be brought into the discussion in order to cover all the
>bases.
```

WHY?

All this will do is confuse things.

Why do you want to have any additional legal restrictions placed upon what we may transmit? Some of here on the list have been involved with previous rulemakings and have learned from experience that, unless there is something specifically prohibited in the rules which we want to be permitted, we're always going to lose when we ask for rules changes.

Leave well enough alone! Don't prod the FCC into looking too closely at what we're doing!

>
>Part 97 FACTS
>
>Everyone should really take out Part 97 and read what is authorized.
>(97.111) Also note that 97.3(a)(23) defines Information Bulletin. A
>text file is available from the ARRL server. Note that it is a 1992 copy!
> I'll not repeat the rules here but, if you do intend to participate in
>this discussion, you should KNOW the facts.

But this only applies to ONE-WAY transmissions. Packet bulletins are sent from station to station, two-way. As another participant (sorry I don't recall who it was!) stated so well, packet PBBs are best compared to roundtable or net discussion.

>1. Current HF
>
>While these conditions apply to all frequencies, consider that these events
>are occurring on 20 meters phone.
>
>1.1 2 Way
>
>It is entirely legal for two stations to debate abortion.
>
>1.2 1 Way
>
>It is NOT legal for a station to transmit a message or bulletin advocating
>or opposing abortion. 97.111(b)(6) and 97.3(a)(23).

Uh, only if the station is not part of a two-way (or roundtable) QSO!

>2.2 1 Way
>
>A station MAY NOT send an unconnected packet containing a msg/bltn on
>abortion. This is exactly the same situation described in 1.2 above.
> A "network" based on unconnected packets could NOT legally accept this
>bltn and process it.

Not quite! Just because the packets are sent as UI (unconnected) frames does not mean that there aren't two (or more) stations involved in a communication. That is the operative consideration here. In a strictly TCP/IP datagram network there aren't connections, yet stations are most definitely in 2-way communication with each other.

>
>Discussion
>
>So a bltn "SB ABORT @ ALLUSA" is entirely legal because it is a 2 way
>transmission.
>
>This is the crux of the matter. Simply stated, I believe that a bulletin
>transmitted on packet (networks) should fall under the same restrictions
>which are currently imposed on 20 meter phone. This position requires
>no justification. There is no technical debate on the merits of one scheme
>or another. It is purely a matter of choice.

OK, so if I understand you correctly you don't see PBBs bulletins as analogous to a roundtable QSO, and therefore you believe PBBs bulletins should be governed by the same restrictions as 1-way transmissions.

Is this correct?

Just for discussion -- Let's say there's an Amateur Radio club at a Catholic high school. The club operates a PBBS. Many of the club's members are also members of the high school computer club. The computer club has an outing planned during a school vacation, but for some reason the outing is cancelled. Under your proposal would it be OK for a bulletin to be posted advising radio club members who are also computer club members that the outing is cancelled?

This would be perfectly legal to discuss on a voice net...

What's the difference?

The PBBS network is an Amateur Radio "net" just like a computer net, emergency net, traffic net, dx net, maritim net, etc.

If it's legal to discuss on a voice or CW net it is (and should remain) legal to discuss over the PBBS net, and the method for this is through the use of packet bulletins.

>4. Proposed Packet

>

>Policy: stations operating in a network shall conform to the same rules
>as stations which are not part of a network. Only information bulletins
>may introduced into a network.

As stated above, I ***STRONGLY*** disagree!

>

>

>Discussion

>

>If you can't live with the existing policy, then you are entirely welcome
>to try and change it. I am only addressing an issue of applicability.

Huh? You are proposing new rules to apply the restrictions placed upon one-way transmissions to non one-way transmissions. Your proposed policy, as stated, would prohibit discussions carried out as part of DX nets, maritime nets, traffic nets, etc., since those are just as much a network as the packet PBBS networks.

And don't forget the Nodes, Switches and digis through which PBBSs communicate with users and each others. They're networked stations. Your proposed rule would make the licensees of these stations liable for the content of the packets they relay.

We just fixed precicely this proble with the new rules! Don't break it again!!

>

>My task is to propose the wording which would implement this position
>in Part 97.

As I've said, please don't do this. It isn't needed, and it will have effects far exceeding those you state. In my opinion, if your proposed rules were adopted much of the existing packet network will go off the air.

>My sincere thanks to those who have responded and I'll continue to be
>available to discuss this issue.

Great. Can we begin with this: What precicely is the problem you are trying to address and why is it a problem? Let's discuss your perceived problem first, and see if it truly exists. If we find that there truly is a problem we can then explore possible solutions.

Please take this slowly. I fear that if you proceed with filing this as a pettion we will end up destroying the pakcet netowrk which many of us have spent years (not to mention thousands of dollars) to build.

73, Andy

--

```
_____  
| Andrew Funk, KB7UV |  
| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |  
| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |  
| --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |
```

39. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 94 19:35:52 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408170035.AA108012@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> >From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
> Subject: Petition - Additional Clarification
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 12:03:54 -0500 (CDT)
>
>
>
> First of all, thanks to all who replied. All the comments I received
> were applicable to the topic. Let me clarify my position with another
> example or two.
>
> For purposes of this discussion, let me use the term "packet" to as being
> representative of all digital modes.
>
>
> FCC Authorized 1 way and 2 way Communications
>
>
> There is some confusion over what is currently authorized. I want to
> point out that I do not believe that unconnected packets are "broadcasting"
> in the traditional sense. That is, transmission of packets, connected
> or unconnected, are not meant for the general public. This general public
> issue needs to be brought into the discussion in order to cover all the
> bases.
>
> Part 97 FACTS
>
> Everyone should really take out Part 97 and read what is authorized.
> (97.111) Also note that 97.3(a)(23) defines Information Bulletin. A
> text file is available from the ARRL server. Note that it is a 1992 copy!
> I'll not repeat the rules here but, if you do intend to participate in
> this discussion, you should KNOW the facts.
>
> The following is a set of scenarios which reflect what is currently authorized
> in Part 97 and what I propose to change. In order to make the discussion
> more realistic, I will use a topic which will enhance the example.
>
>
> 1. Current HF
>
> While these conditions apply to all frequencies, consider that these events
> are occurring on 20 meters phone.
>
> 1.1 2 Way
>
> It is entirely legal for two stations to debate abortion.
>
> 1.2 1 Way
>
> It is NOT legal for a station to transmit a message or bulletin advocating
> or opposing abortion. 97.111(b)(6) and 97.3(a)(23).
>
>
> 2. Current Packet
>
> Consider that these scenarios are on 2 meter packet.
>
> 2.1 2 Way
>
> 2.1.1 2 Stations connected with real liver operators on each station.
>
> It is legal for two stations to debate abortion; connected or unconnected.
> Since a network usually involves a 2 way connected path, the exchange
> may be conducted via a network.
>
>
> 2.1.2 User to a BBS - Personal Mail
>
> A station MAY send a connected msg to a network advocating or opposing
> abortion.
>
> 2.1.3 User to a BBS - Bulletin

>
> A station MAY send a connected _BULLETIN_ to a network advocating or opposing
> abortion.
>
> Note: there is no distinction made in the regulations between 2.1.2 and
> 2.1.3.
>
> 2.2 1 Way
>
> A station MAY NOT send an unconnected packet containing a msg/bltn on
> abortion. This is exactly the same situation described in 1.2 above.
> A "network" based on unconnected packets could NOT legally accept this
> bltn and process it.
>
>
>
> Discussion
>
> So a bltn "SB ABORT @ ALLUSA" is entirely legal because it is a 2 way
> transmission.
>
> This is the crux of the matter. Simply stated, I believe that a bulletin
> transmitted on packet (networks) should fall under the same restrictions
> which are currently imposed on 20 meter phone. This position requires
> no justification. There is no technical debate on the merits of one scheme
> or another. It is purely a matter of choice.
>
> The FCC has a policy on bulletins. I do not propose any change to existing
> policy. However, that policy is being circumvented by a technological
> characteristic which was not foreseen at the time of the rules were written.
> Exactly the same situation as HF unattended operation.
>
>
>
> 3. Proposed HF
>
> None.
>
>
> 4. Proposed Packet
>
> Policy: stations operating in a network shall conform to the same rules
> as stations which are not part of a network. Only information bulletins
> may introduced into a network.
>
>
> Discussion
>
> If you can't live with the existing policy, then you are entirely welcome
> to try and change it. I am only addressing an issue of applicability.
>
>
> My task is to propose the wording which would implement this position
> in Part 97.
>
> My sincere thanks to those who have responded and I'll continue to be
> available to discuss this issue.
>
>
> Barry Buelow WA0RJT
>
>
>
>
>
> Barry Buelow WA0RJT
> Packet: WA0RJT.IA.USA Cedar Rapids, IA
> CII\$: 71664,227
> Internet: "sys_bjb%afds@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com"
>
>
>
What Barry seems to be advocating, is for the FCC to say "we said no
broadcasting and we mean it!!"

Is this correct, Barry?

If so, I ask, "why invite trouble?"

I am not aware of stations creating any problems by sending UI frames on any band. For those handful who beacon "Jesus Loves You" "Impeach Clinton and Her Husband, Too" etc., the way to discourage them is much more effective than another restriction. Just shun them. Our resident evangelist has found motorcycles more fascinating than saving lost digital souls. If we had engaged him, he'd probably be on 20m with a KW trying to save the world by now.

If it becomes a problem, then I'd worry about it.

We would be better served if we presented technical proposals to the FCC, such as ones to maximize efficient use of the bands we have.

Dave W05H

40. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: Bob Wilkins <rwilkins@ccnet.com>
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 20:38:37 -0700 (PDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408162044.A2323-0100000@ccnet>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 16 Aug 1994, Andrew wrote:

> I still (no surprise!) disagree with Barry...
>
> At 02:38 PM 8/16/94 CDT, Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com> wrote:
>
> >FCC Authorized 1 way and 2 way Communications
> >
> >There is some confusion over what is currently authorized.
>
> Maybe it's confusing to some...
>
> All this will do is confuse things.
>
> Why do you want to have any additional legal restrictions placed upon what
> we may transmit? Some of here on the list have been involved with previous
> rulemakings and have learned from experience that, unless there is something
> specifically prohibited in the rules which we want to be permitted, we're
> always going to lose when we ask for rules changes.
>
> Leave well enough alone! Don't prod the FCC into looking too closely at
> what we're doing!
>
> OK, so if I understand you correctly you don't see PBBS bulletins as
> analogous to a roundtable QSO, and therefore you believe PBBS bulletins
> should be governed by the same restrictions as 1-way transmissions.

Please leave the current law alone. If we had a higher speed network in place at this time, Barry would be able to see that there is a two-way dialog with most bulletins. What is frustrating to me is the apparent lack of dialog due to the lag times of the network. These communications are not one-way as defined in part 97, they are really one to many.

Bob

Bob Wilkins	work	bwilkins@cave.org
Berkeley, California	home	rwilkins@ccnet.com
94701-0710	play	n6fri@n6eeg.#nocal.ca.usa.noam

41. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: Douglas Fajardo <dfajardo@netcom.com>
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 22:41:16 -0700 (PDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408162145.A2372-0100000@netcom16>
Rendered body type: text/plain

SUMMARY: (as I understand it):

Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
has been discussing a possible proposal to the FCC to change the regs in order to clarify what is - and is not considered 'broadcasting' (a mode of operation which is prohibited in the amateur bands).

(1) I'm not being hostile here, just looking for information. Why do you feel that the regulations need to be clarified? Do you feel that there is a recurring problem, or do you fear some action from the FCC because the rule is unclear, or ????

(2) IMHO, the INTENT and SPIRIT of the rule against 'broadcasting' is to keep Ham radio from becoming a 'broadcast station', or a haven for pirate radio stations, or similar abuses. Notice that the FCC has traditionally allowed several kinds of operation which might, in the larger scheme of things be called 'broadcasting', for example Morse Code Practice and ARRL Bulletins.

(3) Whether a station is connected -or not connected- is NOT a good way to define broadcasting for two reasons:

(a) On a technical bases, some networks operate WITHOUT a connection. Some protocols in the IP suite (ie:ICMP) are DATAGRAMS, and TCP/IP won't work without it!

(b) On a higher level, sending a message to a specific person (which you said up front was clearly NOT broadcasting) does not call for a connection between the originator and recipient.

(c) Another situation: I send to a discussion group a bulletin expressing my views on a subject (such as this one!). The message is distributed to a wide number of amateurs, most of whom I do not know, nor do I know their calls, or anything else except our common interest in the subject. I firmly believe that this message would be ENTIRELY appropriate on ham radio. Any definition you come up with MUST differentiate between prohibited broadcasts and this type of operation.

(4) I believe that the ONLY kind of definition that will work for your purpose would be one which defines the INTENT of the message. There are a lot of aspects to this hobby, so before you write anything to the FCC, I hope you would be very, very carefull to consider ALL of them.

(BTW: The fact that you have put this before the group forum speaks highly of you in this regard! :).

(5) My present personal opinion (I CAN be swayed by sound argument) - DON'T write the proposal.

**** Doug Fajardo
WB6KNY
dfajardo@netcom.com

42. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: Fred Peerenboom <af780@DAYTON.WRIGHT.EDU>
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 1994 06:40:52 -0400
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408171040.AA25614@dayton.wright.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am new to this sig. But not new to packet radio as I have been in it for over 10 years.
Reading through the discussion on the petition I have drawn two very important conclusions from it.
Barry, you don't understand packet radio at all. And if you keep going in the direction that you are you will destroy it for the rest of us that <DO> understand it and enjoy it. If there were more like you out there in ham radio, <WE WOULD NO LONGER HAVE HAM RADIO FOR THE RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON IT>
You sound like a typical politition to me, if you disagree with something you immediatly propose a law against it. When are people going to learn that making things ilegal will not stop folks from doing it. It only serves to keep the persons that would not do it anyway from doing it.
The final thing that I have to say about this. I thought that I would see something useful here on this sig. And, as I am a co-sysop on a bbs, I thought that I might find some helpful hints on bbs operation that I could implement here. Alas, all I have seen is a discussion not unlike the ones that flow endlessly through the bbs here about everything from gun control to the flavor of lollipops. Hey, I don't even bother to read most of them, yet there are those that do, so they are two way discussions. They harm nothing, they keep something moving on the network as there are darn few messages with techical content around. If they were to go away one might as well turn the box off and save the electricity as it would be dead for days on end waiting for a technical composition to come down the pipe.
Finally, and I know that I can be long winded, ONLY A FOOL POKES A STICK INTO A NEST FULL OF STINGING HORNETS. A petition is like a stick to the FCC.

Fred
ke8tq@ke8tq.ampr.org
af780@dayton.wright.edu

43. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 1994 06:06:08 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408170640.D17522-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

If something is not broken, don't try to fix it.

-73, de karl k5di

44. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 1994 9:37:55 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <940817093755.2691@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In support of the foregoing letters, I wish to add the age-old adage: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!" What we have certainly isn't broken, so let's leave well enough alone!

Ed Sadowski, K1BYV

45. Re: various comments

From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 1994 10:00:22 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <01HG0FSECXDU99DR29@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
>From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
>Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
>To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
>Date: Tue, 16 Aug 94 19:35:52 CDT
>
>What Barry seems to be advocating, is for the FCC to say "we said no
>broadcasting and we mean it!!"
>
>Is this correct, Barry?
>
>If so, I ask, "why invite trouble?"
>
>I am not aware of stations creating any problems by sending UI frames on
>any band. For those handful who beacon "Jesus Loves You" "Impeach
>Clinton and Her Husband, Too" etc., the way to discourage them is much
>more effective than another restriction. Just shun them. Our resident
>evangelist has found motorcycles more fascinating than saving lost
>digital souls. If we had engaged him, he'd probably be on 20m with a KW
>trying to save the world by now.
>
>If it becomes a problem, then I'd worry about it.
>
>We would be better served if we presented technical proposals to the
>FCC, such as ones to maximize efficient use of the bands we have.
>
>Dave W05H
>

Dave,
The problem is much less with beacons than with content of the bltns on the network. I do not believe that because the msg was placed on the network by a connection, properly constitutes a 2-way QSO.

The phrase I was trying to have people key in on is "Desktop Broadcasting." Maybe I'm being too kind here so let me try it another way.

EVERY HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT WITH A C-64 WANTS TO PUBLISH A ELECTRONIC MAGAZINE AND EXPECTS THE NETWORK TO DELIVER IT.

I really think we could live with something less chaotic.

Barry

>From: Douglas Fajardo <dfajardo@netcom.com>
>Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

>To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
>Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 22:41:16 -0700 (PDT)
>
>SUMMARY: (as I understand it):
>Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
>has been discussing a possible proposal to the FCC to change the regs in
>order to clarify what is - and is not considered 'broadcasting' (a mode
>of operation which is prohibited in the amateur bands).
>
>(3) Whether a station is connected -or not connected- is NOT a good way to
>define broadcasting for two reasons:
>
> (a) On a technical bases, some networks operate WITHOUT a
>connection. Some protocols in the IP suite (ie:ICMP) are DATAGRAMS, and
>TCP/IP won't work without it!
>
> (b) On a higher level, sending a message to a specific person
>(which you said up front was clearly NOT broadcasting) does not call for
>a connection between the originator and recipient.
>
> (c) Another situation: I send to a discussion group a bulletin
>expressing my views on a subject (such as this one!). The message is
>distributed to a wide number of amateurs, most of whom I do not know, nor
>do I know their calls, or anything else except our common interest in the
>subject. I firmly believe that this message would be ENTIRELY appropriate
>on ham radio. Any definition you come up with MUST differentiate between
>prohibited broadcasts and this type of operation.
>
>(4) I believe that the ONLY kind of definition that will work for your
>purpose would be one which defines the INTENT of the message. There are a
>lot of aspects to this hobby, so before you write anything to the FCC, I
>hope you would be very, very carefull to consider ALL of them.
>
> (BTW: The fact that you have put this before the group forum speaks
>highly of you in this regard! :).
>
>(5) My present personal opinion (I CAN be swayed by sound argument) -
> DON'T write the proposal.
>
>**** Doug Fajardo
> WB6KNY
> dfajardo@netcom.com
>

Doug,
You win the "Author's Choice Award" for best response!

I certainly agree that there are a lot of options and they make it
difficult to define the problem narrowly.

Many of the examples cited in these and other comments are valid
but portray me as objecting to everything. The best I can do is
give more examples of the kind of bulletin I'm trying to address.

Take a look at this list of bltn that we all see on BBSs everyday.

1-way Examples

Humor	not usually!
Today	history lessons are not part of roundtable QSOs.
Fire	2 stations are putting out fire summaries. Now they are up to 10 parts per day! Does any bbs more than a few hops away ever get all the parts in order?
Wisdom	got to be plagiarized.
Freedom Fighters	how many months before we have pipe bomb recipes?
Recipes	
WX	I get old wx summaries and predictions that some clown is copying off Wx Svc feed and retyping. Value=0.

All of the above are clearly 1-way. It would be completely illegal
to key a tx on 20 mtrs and read any of these items. We would all
agree it would be broadcasting. I believe that they should be
classified as broadcasts even though they have been carried on a
network. Isn't this truely "desktop broadcasting?"

I'm also kind of amazed that K1MAN hasn't tripped on to networks
and run on for megabytes, but then he wants to do "real braodcasting."

Roundtable Examples

Guns
Debate

Waco this has to be the low point of ham radio. if it wasn't
the bottom, it was sure close. good taste and common sense
went out window on day 1. regardless of your views, most people
would say this "discussion" was truly disgusting.

Can anyone say this (above) is related to ham radio and is in our
best interest to continue this practice. If I were petitioning the
FCC to get a ham band converted to commercial use, this is would be part of
my comments!

I don't know how to differentiate between all of the combinations
that Doug has pointed out. This is not a simple problem and my
first post was meant to understate the issue in order to allow more
open discussion.

A way (not necessarily the only way) to deal with this issue (and I want
to call it a plague) is to link the rules which address broadcasting,
1-way and 2-way together to deal with networks. It now appears that
this may be done by examining the commands which are issued to the
network, regardless of connect or unconn.

How about this?

Only information bulletins may be introduced into a network.

Revise 97.3(a)(23) to read:

Information Bulletin. A message directed only to amateur operators
consisting solely of subject matter of direct interest to the amateur
service or related to science and technology.

^This expands the definition slightly.

Now I'll go soak my head now to cool down.

73
Barry

BTW, the votes on this are about 50/50. Old timers say the hobby
is ruined. New comers think the bands should be totally unrestricted.

Barry Buelow WA0RJT
Packet: WA0RJT.IA.USA Cedar Rapids, IA
CIS: 71664,227
Internet: "sys_bjb%afds@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com"

46. Re: Proposal

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 94 09:06:57 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408170906.ZM16190@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Just a couple quick comments on this topic.

I've run a packet bbs longer than anyone else (well, with the
exception of K10JH, who had his system online a month before me).

During that entire time, over ten years, my system has NEVER:

1. Done a broadcast in the sense of part 97.
2. Done a one way transmission in the sense of part 97.

So I suspect we do not need any changes to those portions of part 97.
We have managed to get along without doing broadcasts and without
doing one way transmissions fairly well.

There is one further issue: the point-to-multipoint protocol used
for the distribution of bulletins via satellite. These MAY come
under the "one way transmission" rules, but certainly do not come
under the "broadcast" rules. Do we need changes to part 97 for

this case?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

47. Re: Example of a

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 94 09:20:01 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408170920.ZM16233@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 16, 2:54pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Example of a
> From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
> Subject: Example of a bulletin?
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 12:13:26 -0500 (CDT)
>
>
>
> Rules on networks deal strictly with the header address/destination for
> each individual packet.
>
> Network operations are NOT governed by the header but by instructions
> with the text area of the message.
>
> Consider a packet in a connected session:
>
> <To:W0BBS> <From:WA0RJT> <SB ABORT @ ALLUSA| I'm for/against...>
>
>
> What does the FCC think this is?

The FCC thinks this is a transmission from one station to another. You did not provide enough information for me (or the FCC) to determine WHICH stations are involved.

You just told me what was said, but not who said it, nor who heard it.

i.e. what two stations are in qso here?

i.e. give us the rest of the info: the packet HEADERS.
If this is not clear, turn on monitor and look at the packets. Each has the calls of the stations involved in the qso.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

48. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: rkudson@rahul.net
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 94 09:05:55 PDT
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <4.01UT.940817091514.rkudson@office>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> >From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
> Subject: Petition - Additional Clarification
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 12:03:54 -0500 (CDT)
>

Barry,

I may be naive but I just finished re-reading your original post, your clarification and the appropriate part 97 sections and I don't have a clear understanding of why your proposed changes are necessary. Perhaps you could write on the expected changes to the system that would occur as a result of your suggested modifications to Part 97.

I appreciate you presenting the proposal in open forum.

73 de Bob,

ax.25net: K06AQ@N0ARY.#NOCA.CA.USA.NA
amprnet: ko6aq@ko6aq.ampr.org [44.4.20.10]
internet: rknudson@rahul.net

49. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 94 14:42:21 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408171442.ZM16925@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 17, 4:12pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> From: Fred Peerenboom <af780@DAYTON.WRIGHT.EDU>
> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Wed, 17 Aug 1994 06:40:52 -0400
>
> I am new to this sig. But not new to packet radio as I have been in it for
> over 10 years.

<...>

> The final thing that I have to say about this. I thought that I would see
> something useful here on this sig. And, as I am a co-sysop on a bbs, I
> thought that I might find some helpful hints on bbs operation that I could
> implement here.

<...>

I'll kick one off!

Users keep asking me things like "How do I send a bulletin so that everyone in Ohio will see it, but it won't go EVERYWHERE."

Answer: you can't

Reason: no standards for distributions

Solution: can this group address this issue, come up with a (simple, understandable by J. Random Ham) way to do it?

Or maybe a couple!

I have EU and EURO, SA and SOAM, etc. in my forward files.
Why can't we just adopt ONE or ANOTHER of those, and be done with it?

Answer: we could. we tried. we failed.

Or perhaps three!

There are some interesting servers written for (FBB, RLI, 4RE, PRMBS, ...) and I would like to use them with my (RLI, 4RE, PRMBS, FBB, ...) system, but they don't work. What can I do?

Answer: ask the authors to make a standard interface!

How: via the TAPR BBS Authors conference.

Question: is there one?

Answer: no, not yet ...

(Maybe I should change the Subject of this message, but will let

51. Re: Proposal

From: "John W. (Bill) Hays, W00MV" <billh@INS.INFONET.NET>
Date: Wed, 17 Aug 1994 20:04:59 CST
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <00983193.B934F145.133@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

My hats off to Barry for putting this out in the open for comment B4 firing it off to the FCC!!!!

I'm a little fed up with what *I* consider *junk* bulls, but heck, its ham radio.

I do remem ber when tfc between south Texas and Minnesota took a matter of a couple of hours routinely....not any more! Its days if at all B4 it gets thru.

73,
Bill, W00MV

P.S. I still like packet and tcpip and the fruits of the labors of love of so many others, TNX!!!!

52. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 08:04:17 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408180805.A6395-0100000@dec>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 17 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> If something is not broken, don't try to fix it.
> -73, de karl k5di

Amen! Or, even if it works good, don't break it... This, I think, is a better wording...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

53. Re: various comments

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 08:07:09 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408180859.B6395-0100000@dec>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 17 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
>
> EVERY HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT WITH A C-64 WANTS TO PUBLISH A ELECTRONIC
> MAGAZINE AND EXPECTS THE NETWORK TO DELIVER IT.

Say what? How many high school drop outs can read enough to pass their exam?

73, de Bill, N3JIX

54. Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 08:19:04 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408180802.D6395-0100000@dec>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 18 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Wed, 17 Aug 94 14:42:21 PDT
>
> Users keep asking me things like "How do I send a bulletin so that
> everyone in Ohio will see it, but it won't go EVERYWHERE."
>
> Solution: can this group address this issue, come up with a (simple,
> understandable by J. Random Ham) way to do it?

Here's an idea: XXBBS Where XX is the State. So, you would have OHBBS.

I've seen this somewhere, and I think it's a good idea...

I run a pbbs in PA, and our network for PA is PANET. I think it would be simpler for everyone to go to a standard... Like PABBS.

What do you think Hank?

> I have EU and EURO, SA and SOAM, etc. in my forward files.
> Why can't we just adopt ONE or ANOTHER of those, and be done with it?
> Answer: we could. we tried. we failed.

Let's try again! I think that if we come up with a good system, and talk to the right people, I could go through... Talk to TAPR, ARRL digital Comm, and any other packet organaization that we can talk to...

> How: via the TAPR BBS Authors conference.
> Answer: no, not yet ...

Sounds like a good idea...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlb@dec.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****
* Packet : n3jix@k9iu.#sil.il.usa.na Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *

55. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 10:53:47 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408181053.aa20157@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I frequently send messages s dx @ texas
Just for distribution inside texas. It works fine.
why can't they do it in OHIO??

--

73

=====
Robert Wood
WB5CRG
w5robert@blkbox.com (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc!)
w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu
=====

56. Re: w0rli comments

From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 13:28:44 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <01HG21CURP3699DSR1@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
>Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
>Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM
>
>Just a couple quick comments on this topic.
>
>I've run a packet bbs longer than anyone else (well, with the
>exception of K10JH, who had his system online a month before me).
>
>During that entire time, over ten years, my system has NEVER:
>
>1. Done a broadcast in the sense of part 97.
>

I absolutely agree.

That is because the Part 97 definition of broadcast is very narrow. It would be difficult to envision a PBBS transmitting info to the general public.

>2. Done a one way transmission in the sense of part 97.
>

well...

Beacons of "Mail for: wxyz" would fall under 97.111(b)(6) which authorizes dissemination of information bulletins. Unless there was a valid callsign in the TO field of the AX.25 packet, then it would be a 2-way.

```
--
>From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
>Subject: Re: Example of a
>To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
>Date: Wed, 17 Aug 94 09:20:01 PDT
>
>On Aug 16, 2:54pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
>> Subject: Example of a
>> From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
>> Subject: Example of a bulletin?
>> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
>> Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 12:13:26 -0500 (CDT)
>>
>>
>> Rules on networks deal strictly with the header address/destination for
>> each individual packet.
>>
>> Network operations are NOT goverened by the header but by instructions
>> with the text area of the message.
>>
>> Consider a packet in a connected session:
>>
>> <To:W0BBS> <From:WA0RJT> <SB ABORT @ ALLUSA| I'm for/against...>
>>
>>
>> What does the FCC think this is?
>
>The FCC thinks this is a transmission from one station to
>another. You did not provide enough information for me
>(or the FCC) to determine WHICH stations are involved.
>
```

hank,
You are absolutely correct. The FCC thinks this is a two-way QSO.
The example was meant to show a monitored packet from WA0RJT to W0BBS.
This is a user connected to a BBS and sending a bulletin.

I simply suggest that the since this action is generating a bulletin, it
be treated under the same rules that would govern the equivalent
voice message.

One-way on a non-network
SHOULD BE
the equivalent of a bulletin on a network.

You also point out that the satelllites do a one-way transmission. Good
point, I hadn't thought of that. Very interesting example because it
now can be argued that bulletins sent via a network are governed as
2-way and bulletins distributed by satelllite are governed as 1-way.

So it can be legal on a 2-way but not on a 1-way! oooo.... I love it.
Just one more reason we need to clarify the rules.

Is anyone at ARRL HQ tuned in?

73
barry

Barry Buelow WA0RJT
Packet: WA0RJT.IA.USA Cedar Rapids, IA
CI\$: 71664,227
Internet: "sys_bjb%afds@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com"

57. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: jra1854@ntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 15:49:49 -0600
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <01HG26DHSYWI91WZ19@ntech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
[snip]
>Here's an idea: XXBBS Where XX is the State. So, you would have OHBBS.
>
>I've seen this somewhere, and I think it's a good idea...
>
>I run a pbbbs in PA, and our network for PA is PANET. I think it would be
>simpler for everyone to go to a standard... Like PABBS.

I agree that we need a standard. But think big! We need a system that works for the entire world. I believe that we would be much better off with a hierarchical system, for example northeast.pa.usa or southeast.usa, etc., than having a whole bunch of five or six letter codes for various regions (unless you're going to use grid zones...not very user friendly). (Is AL Alabama or Alberta? al.can is unambiguous.)

Is it possible to release ourselves from the six letter prison that the current addressing scheme is imposing on us? Let's look at other systems, like usenet, and see if we can come up with a better system than we have now.

But before we invent another system we should take a hard look at where the rest of the country, and world, is going. Should we move towards protocols, or at least message and bulletin addresses, compatible with the Internet? If not, are we going to be left behind?

Jeff, k9ja

+-+
Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@ntech.edu | Box 5004
(615) 372-3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

58. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Tue, 16 Aug 94 17:01:00 PDT
To: 'bbssig' <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E53F3CF@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
>Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
>To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
>Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 10:53:47 -0500 (CDT)
>
>I frequently send messages s dx @ texas
>Just for distribution inside texas. It works fine.
>why can't they do it in OHIO??

Since I have no route defined for "TEXAS", my BBS would immediately generate a message to me telling me this. For the first 3 or 4 messages, I may consider fixing the address for you, after that I send them back. Not all states would fit in the six character space allowed for a flood zone, then what? Being we already have a standard set of postal codes for states, that is what I will continue to use...

ANY standard is better than NO standard at all!

Mike N4CNW

59. Re: various comments

From: ddietz@rhi.hi.is (Donald Lee Dietz)
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 23:59:35 +0000 (GMT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408182359.AA13961@hengill.rhi.hi.is>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)

> Subject: Re: various comments
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Wed, 17 Aug 1994 14:53:43 -0400
>
> So you don't like some of thie things people have been discussing on the air
> or posting as packet bulletins.
>
> Here's the surefire solution to your problem:
>
> Change frequency, don't read bulletins that aren't of interest to
> you, or turn off your radio.
>
>
> Since we're talking FCC rules here let's take into consideration certain
> aspects of American culture. We have freedom of speach and expression here
> in the USA. Amateur Radio is a form of communications. American Radio
> Amateurs can, and do, discuss all sorts of topics over the air.
>
> There is no reason why Amateur Radio communications should be limited to
> discussions about Amateur Radio. You stated that discussions which have
> been held via packet bulletins are good arguments for commercial interests
> taking away Amateur frequencies. On the contrary! If all Amateurs are
> permitted to discuss is Amateur Radio then Amateur Radio will be nothing but
> a self-serving waste of spectrum.
>
> My feelings:
>
> If you don't appreciate freedom of expression then you are free to state
> your views -- but don't try to take away everone else's right to free
> expression!
>
> If you don't think Amateur Radio is an appropriate medium for communications
> with which you disagree -- TOUGH! You can always QSY or QRT.
>
> Gee, I seem to recall some fairly recent government changes throughout the
> world motivated in no small part by the desire of the populace for freedom
> of expression. And this nation is founded on principles of liberty.
>
> Why are you trying to take this away from Amateur Radio?
>
> -Andy-
> --
> Andrew Funk, KB7UV
> | ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
> | Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |
> | --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |
>
>

I concur whole heartedly! Freedom of speech and expression is one of the
founding principles of this country, and it seems lately that a lot of
people want to censor everything that they don't agree with and don't want
to hear. I wonder if they are just out to try to control everything in
their lives or what.

Like you said, if you don't like what someone has to say, don't listen.
Trying to slap a muzzle on them so that they can't speak is definitely not
neighborly, and is a definite infringement upon our rights.

Respectfully,
Don, N3KFH /TF8

n3kfh@centrum.is (Internet)
n3kfh@tf3bbs.isl.eu or n3kfh@k4ry.#cenal.al.usa.noam (Packet)

60. Announcement at Digital Conference

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 94 22:42:45 CDT
To: bbssig
Message-ID: <9408190342.AA183874@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

There will be an announcement concerning address standards at this
weekend's National Digital Conference. A bulletin with the text of the
announcement will be posted on the BBS SIG for general distribution
early next week.

73 de Dave Wolf W05H TAPR BBS SIG Chair

61. Message Content

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 94 22:59:42 CDT
To: bbssig
Message-ID: <9408190359.AA185321@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Brief and to the point:

The TAPR BBS SIG can most effectively deal (and it's hard enough, believe me!) with operational and technical issues. While discussion of message content is important and is at the top of everyone's list of what they like to talk about at Sysop meetings, we're not going to all agree on what offends each of us and what doesn't. We can help each other out by sharing tips on streamlining forwarding files, and we can look at certain technical aspects of establishing new standards and protocols without the emotion of intensely personal values getting in the way.

MORE example forwarding files.

MORE example configuration and setup files.

MORE exchange of places to buy hardware and surplus radio gear.

MORE examples of how you have better educated you users.

MORE recommendations of books that offer insight to computer hardware, software, and RF techniques for the AMATEURS in these endeavors that most of us truly are.

YOU don't need permission from anyone to move forward with a pet project. If you would like to see TAPR publish the User's Guide for BBS Operation that you have written, share it. If you have a schematic for hooking up multiple TNCs in a networked configuration for an AX.25 and a NOS board running on separate computers, SHARE IT.

If your idea is not as sophisticated as some of the others you see here and elsewhere, don't be discouraged. It might be something a self-appointed genius was too embarrassed to admit he couldn't figure out.

73 de Dave W05H TAPR BBS SIG Chair

62. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: ve6eei@ve6eei.ampr.ab.ca (Evan E. Idler, Edmonton, AB [192.75.200.5])
Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 23:29:40 -0600
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <14322@ve6eei.ampr.ab.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

why not base it on the telephone networks contry code, and area code for directing messages to the correct area of the planet. The phone company has already gone to the trouble of breaking the planet up into small, well defined area's, that almost every person in Canada, the US, and most of the world has available within arms reach. Almost every phone book that I have seen within the last 10 years has the information available for at least there country. The ARRL, or TAPR, or some group could compile a world wide directory, to be used to the next year, and could be updated once a year by all sysops, on a specific day, just like a new phone book.

You could have a SBL command for sending bulletins within you own country, and area code. The bbs would not ask for country or area code.

You could then have a SBC for sending a bulletin to a specific area, where the BBS asks for the area code(s) for which you want the bulletin to go to.

And last you could have a SBA for sending messages to another country. It would then ask for the Country code and then the area code(S) that you want the bulletin to go to.

The exact command names could be anything that you want to use, but the idea is there. Things could be broken down farther if it was needed, but it would be a good starting point. Area codes, and country codes don't change to much, but are very well regulated in most parts of the word, and usually documented in most of them. How else could the telephone companies automate the phone system.

73

Evan

PS: AL is Alabama and AB is Alberta, this can be found at any post office as well. The problem is most people don't read.

```
=====
Evan E. Idler | Of All The Things I've Lost
ve6eei@ve6eei.ampr.ab.ca | In Life, I Miss My MIND The
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada | Most!!!
Amateur Packet Radio Station VE6EEI [192.75.200.5]
=====
```

63. Broadcast protocol

From: "Harold E. Price" <hprice@bektek.com>
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 01:03:06 +0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408190008.C10489-0100000@terrazzo.lm.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Greg asked me to make a comment on Satellites and one way transmissions. Please don't confuse "the broadcast protocol" with "broadcasting". The satellites do send one-way transmissions, but this is telemetry, engineering data, status messages, etc. Telemetry is specifically permitted in the satellite service. The message service "broadcast protocol" always sends data in response to an uplink requesting the data, and is therefore not one-way in the Part 97 sense. This is the same as making a download request on an ax.25 connection, but there are less acks on the uplink. There is nothing in Part 97 that says that others can't "read the mail". Please don't drag the satellite service into any rulemaking activity. We're doing just fine, thanks.

Harold Price
NK6K

64. RE: Message Content

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 7:35:59 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <940819073559.5526@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks, Dave, for putting things back into perspective. All of us can and do lose sight of things when we get on a soapbox. I joined this SIG for the very reasons that you've put forth, and the only reason I don't drop it is the hope that occasionally something along these lines will come along. Keep up the good work, however thankless. I, for one, do appreciate it.

73, Ed, K1BYV

65. Re: Message Content

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 09:24:32 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408190957.A19926-0100000@dec>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 19 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

- > From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
- > MORE example forwarding files.
- > MORE example configuration and setup files.
- > MORE exchange of places to buy hardware and surplus radio gear.
- > MORE examples of how you have better educated you users.
- > MORE recommendations of books that offer insight to computer hardware,
- > software, and RF techniques for the AMATEURS in these endeavors that
- > most of us truly are.

Sounds like a great idea... I'll have to get some stuff around to post about my configuration...

But a brief note:

I'm located in eastern PA.

My system is a 386 Dx 40 Running Dos 6.2 with desqview 2.60 on 2 megs of ram.

I'm running CBBS 7.30 which runs real good...

My question out the group is: Will I get anymore memory for applications if I downgrade to dos 5.0? I'm running 6.2 now and have QEMM 386 7.01 on there too. I can get three 128k bbs windows plus a 384k dos window. Anyway to squeeze more out of desqview and such?

Thanks

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet:  wlb@dec.bloomu.edu           * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****
* Packet   :  n3jix@k9iu.#sil.il.usa.na   Or  n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *
*****
```

66. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 07:48:17 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408190732.B13158-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 18 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```
> From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 08:04:17 -0400 (EDT)
>
>
> On Wed, 17 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
>
> > If something is not broken, don't try to fix it.
> > -73, de karl k5di
>
> Amen! Or, even if it works good, don't break it... This, I think, is a
> better wording...
>
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX
>
> Agreed.
```

73, karl k5di

67. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 94 11:24:58 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408191124.ZM19876@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 18, 3:00pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```
> Subject: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...
> From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
> Subject: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 08:19:04 -0400 (EDT)
>
>
>
> On Thu, 18 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
>
> > From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
> > Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> > To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> > Date: Wed, 17 Aug 94 14:42:21 PDT
> >
> > Users keep asking me things like "How do I send a bulletin so that
> > everyone in Ohio will see it, but it won't go EVERYWHERE."
> >
> > Solution: can this group address this issue, come up with a (simple,
> > understandable by J. Random Ham) way to do it?
>
> Here's an idea:  XXBBS  Where XX is the State.  So, you would have OHBBS.
>
> I've seen this somewhere, and I think it's a good idea...
>
```

> I run a pbbs in PA, and our network for PA is PANET. I think it would be
> simpler for everyone to go to a standard... Like PABBS.
>

> What do you think Hank?

I think PA is simpler ... we use OR and it works just fine,
and we don't even HAVE to explain it to the users.

That "BBS" is just extra garbage that adds no value.

<...>

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

68. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 94 11:26:29 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408191126.ZM19881@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 18, 3:14pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 10:53:47 -0500 (CDT)
>
> I frequently send messages s dx @ texas
> Just for distribution inside texas. It works fine.
> why can't they do it in OHIO??

Makes sense to me.

We could just use OREGON and WASHINGTON in this area ...

Oops ... no, can't do that, and really can't do
@ WEST VIRGINIA

But OR, WA, TX, WV are all pretty simple for the users to understand.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

69. Re: Petition - Additional Clarification

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 94 11:26:29 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408191126.ZM19881@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 18, 3:14pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
> Subject: Re: Petition - Additional Clarification
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 10:53:47 -0500 (CDT)
>
> I frequently send messages s dx @ texas
> Just for distribution inside texas. It works fine.
> why can't they do it in OHIO??

Makes sense to me.

We could just use OREGON and WASHINGTON in this area ...

Oops ... no, can't do that, and really can't do
@ WEST VIRGINIA

But OR, WA, TX, WV are all pretty simple for the users to understand.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

70. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 94 11:35:34 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408191135.ZM19898@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 18, 10:18pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...
> From: jra1854@ntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
> Subject: Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 15:49:49 -0600

> I agree that we need a standard. But think big! We need a system that
> works for the entire world. I believe that we would be much better off
> with a hierarchical system, for example northeast.pa.usa or southeast.usa,
> etc., than having a whole bunch of five or six letter codes for various
> regions (unless you're going to use grid zones...not very user friendly).
> (Is AL Alabama or Alberta? al.can is unambiguous.)

AL is Alabama.
AB is Alberta.

Bet you could find another example though ...

<...>

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

71. Re: w0rli comments

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 94 11:32:28 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408191132.ZM19886@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 18, 3:29pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: w0rli comments
> From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
> Subject: Re: w0rli comments
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 13:28:44 -0500 (CDT)
>
>
> >Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
> >Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
> >Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM
> >
> >Just a couple quick comments on this topic.
> >
> >I've run a packet bbs longer than anyone else (well, with the

> >exception of K10JH, who had his system online a month before me).
 > >
 > >During that entire time, over ten years, my system has NEVER:
 > >
 > >1. Done a broadcast in the sense of part 97.
 > >
 > >
 > I absolutely agree.
 > >
 > That is because the Part 97 definition of broadcast is very narrow. It
 > would be difficult to envision a PBBS transmitting info to the general
 public.

And in fact we don't. That is why the "broadcast" issue is a straw man.

> >2. Done a one way transmission in the sense of part 97.
 > >
 > >
 > well...
 > >
 > Beacons of "Mail for: wxyz" would fall under 97.111(b)(6) which
 > authorizes dissemination of information bulletins.
 > Unless there was a valid callsign in the TO field of the AX.25 packet,
 > then it would be a 2-way.

Was talking about my system. It does NOT do any such "beacons"
 (which are not beacons in the part 97 sense anyway).

<...>

> > <To:W0BBS> <From:WA0RJT> <SB ABORT @ ALLUSA| I'm for/against...>
 > >
 > >
 > > What does the FCC think this is?
 > >
 > >The FCC thinks this is a transmission from one station to
 > >another. You did not provide enough information for me
 > >(or the FCC) to determine WHICH stations are involved.
 > >
 > >
 > hank,
 > You are absolutely correct. The FCC thinks this is a two-way QSO.
 > The example was meant to show a monitored packet from WA0RJT to W0BBS.
 > This is a user connected to a BBS and sending a bulletin.
 > >
 > I simply suggest that the since this action is generating a bulletin, it
 > be treated under the same rules that would govern the equivalent
 > voice message.

Yes, it IS a two-way QSO. So what's the problem again?

>
 >
 > One-way on a non-network
 > SHOULD BE
 > the equivalent of a bulletin on a network.

Why?

>
 > You also point out that the satellites do a one-way transmission. Good
 > point, I hadn't thought of that. Very interesting example because it
 > now can be argued that bulletins sent via a network are governed as
 > 2-way and bulletins distributed by satellite are governed as 1-way.

I pointed out no such thing. I asked the question whether point-to-
 multipoint protocols may need clarification. Others pointed out the
 generally accepted case of voice (or cw or rtty ...) round table
 discussions, which are also point-to-multipoint.

I did not mention "one way transmissions".

<...>

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
 Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"

72. Re: Broadcast protocol

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 94 11:38:53 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408191138.ZM19903@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 19, 1:14am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> Subject: Broadcast protocol
> From: "Harold E. Price" <hprice@bektek.com>
> Subject: Broadcast protocol
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 01:03:06 +0400 (EDT)
>
> Greg asked me to make a comment on Satellites and one way transmissions.
> Please don't confuse "the broadcast protocol" with "broadcasting". The
> satellites do send one-way transmissions, but this is telemetry,
> engineering data, status messages, etc. Telemetry is specifically
> permitted in the satellite service. The message service "broadcast
> protocol" always sends data in response to an uplink requesting the data,
> and is therefore not one-way in the Part 97 sense. This is the same as
> making a download request on an ax.25 connection, but there are less acks
> on the uplink. There is nothing in Part 97 that says that others can't
> "read the mail". Please don't drag the satellite service into any
> rulemaking activity. We're doing just fine, thanks.
>
> Harold Price
> NK6K
>

Strongly agree with Harold's point!

And please don't drag the BBS network into it also ... for the same
reason - we are doing FINE with the rules we have. The minor
exceptions to this are being addressed.

To quote someone else in this forum: "If it is working, don't break it."

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

73. Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 12:45:16 -0400
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Cc: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Message-ID: <199408192012.AA02827@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 03:15 PM 8/18/94 CDT, From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM> wrote:

>
>I frequently send messages s dx @ texas
>Just for distribution inside texas. It works fine.
>why can't they do it in OHIO??
>--

Robert, I think you may have missed the point.

Say a person in Ohio will be travelling to Texas, and wants to send a
bulletin to all BBSs in Texas -- from Ohio -- to ask about repeaters, etc.

How can this be accomplished?

The issue isn't simply regional flood routes -- it's how can one *outside* a
region send a bulletin which will flood a targeted region.

73, Andy

--

| Andrew Funk, KB7UV
| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |

74. Re: w0rli comments

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 12:45:19 -0400
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199408192012.AA02842@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
At 03:30 PM 8/18/94 CDT, Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com> wrote:

>I simply suggest that the since this action is generating a bulletin, it
>be treated under the same rules that would govern the equivalent
>voice message.

But if one makes a voice transmission as part of a net, similar to the
packet transmission, it is legal, too.

>
>So it can be legal on a 2-way but not on a 1-way! oooo.... I love it.
>Just one more reason we need to clarify the rules.

Barry, only you seem to feel the rules need clarifying.

How 'bout you state your desired result and your rationale for it, since it
seems to me that you're looking to restrict message content, not simply
"clarify the rules."

-Andy-

--

| Andrew Funk, KB7UV |
| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |
| --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |

75. STANDARDS FOR BBSES AND B

From: tom.dove@sail.com
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 94 08:50:11
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408190850.A8388wk@sail.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

B> Here's an idea: XXBBS Where XX is the State. So, you would have
B> OHBBS.
B>
B> I've seen this somewhere, and I think it's a good idea...
B>
B> I run a pbbs in PA, and our network for PA is PANET. I think it
B> would be simpler for everyone to go to a standard... Like PABBS.

Hi gang,

In the Maryland/DC area, we have used MDCBBS for years and it works just
fine. In Virginia, it's VANET. Regional distros go slightly beyond state
borders and that's OK, as BBSSs in northern Maryland often want to carry
PANET material and those in the south have connections to VANET, for
example.

I agree that a state standard would be nice, since users here
occasionally want to post bulletins that will appear only in another
region and it's nearly impossible to guess the correct designator. I was
once scolded by a sysop in North Carolina for using the wrong regional
designator when there was no way short of the occult that I could have
known the right one.

Either of those formats would probably be acceptable to hams. Let's
choose one and just do it.

73 de Tom, K3ORC

76. Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 19:28:39 -0500 (CDT)
To: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>
Cc: tapr bbssig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408191928.aa03301@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain
>
> At 03:15 PM 8/18/94 CDT, From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM> wrote:

```

> >
> >I frequently send messages    s dx @ texas
> >Just for distribution inside texas.  It works fine.
> >why can't they do it in OHIO??
> >--
>
> Robert, I think you may have missed the point.
>
> Say a person in Ohio will be travelling to Texas, and wants to send a
> bulletin to all BBSs in Texas -- from Ohio -- to ask about repeaters, etc.
>
> How can this be accomplished?
>
> The issue isn't simply regional flood routes -- it's how can one *outside* a
> region send a bulletin which will flood a targeted region.
>
> 73, Andy
> --
> _____ Andrew Funk, KB7UV _____

```

First I check with the local BBS that does all forwarding in/out Houston and see what areas he supports. This is one method. Now for FBB users, type LS REDIST you will get a list of redistribution servers. These are neat for those users willing to read instructions. I have forwarded several messages to S. Africa using this method and gotten replys from there - so I know it works. I understand that we need a universal method, but to those that really want a message just posted in a certain area - the redist server is one of the current answers. I have had good luck with it.

```

--
73
=====
Robert Wood
WB5CRG
w5robert@blkbox.com      (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc.!)
w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu
=====

```

77. Re: Message Content

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 20 Aug 1994 04:05:49 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408200332.B24438-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 19 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```

> From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Message Content
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 09:24:32 -0400 (EDT)
>
> Sounds like a great idea... I'll have to get some stuff around to post about
> my configuration...
>
> But a brief note:
>
> I'm located in eastern PA.
>
> My system is a 386 Dx 40 Running Dos 6.2 with desqview 2.60 on 2 megs of ram.
>
> I'm running CBBS 7.30 which runs real good...
>
> My question out the group is: Will I get anymore memory for applications
> if I downgrade to dos 5.0? I'm runnign 6.2 now and have QEMM 386 7.01 on
> there too. I can get three 128k bbs windows plus a 384k dos window.
> Anyway to squeeze more out of desqview and such?

```

I don't think you can gain much from downgrading Bill. Suggest you run MEMMAKER and see if you can load anything more high in memory. That leaves more for your deskvue windows.

When you find a good deal on another 2 meg of ram, get it. Then you will be real happy.

CBBS 7.30, wow! I think my time with CBBS was at version 3.??

```

>
> Thanks
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX

```

```

> *****
> * Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
> * Internet: wlb@dec.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
> * Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****
> * Packet : n3jix@k9iu.#sil.il.usa.na Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *
> *****
>
73, de karl k5di

```

78. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
 Date: Sat, 20 Aug 1994 08:17:18 -0600 (MDT)
 To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408200703.A27026-0100000@kazak>
 Rendered body type: text/plain
 On Fri, 19 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```

> From: ve6eei@ve6eei.ampr.ab.ca (Evan E. Idler, Edmonton, AB [192.75.200.5])
> Subject: Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Thu, 18 Aug 1994 23:29:40 -0600
>
> why not base it on the telephone networks contry code, and area code for
> directing messages to the correct area of the planet. The phone company
> has already gone to the trouble of breaking the planet up into small, well
> defined area's, that almost every person in Canada, the US, and most of
> the world has available within arms reach. Almost every phone book that I

```

This is a good idea since the size of the long distance area-code is very much a function of population. Here in NM we have just 1 area-code which is 505. For years Colorado had just 1 but now I see it has 2 area-codes, 303 the old one and 719 the new one.

There is a problem however. I see on page A19 of the phone book that Nicaragua has a country code of...505. But this problem can be cured by PLACEMENT in the address field. Alas there is no country code listed for the USA in my phone book. Let me guess we are #1.

My bbs which is now k5di.nm.usa.na will become k5di.505.001 which is not very easy to read manually but on page A18 the telephone company has the area codes listed by assending numbers. So finding 505 is not a problem.

A message for Nicaragua would be xe3xx.002.505 and is not confused with New Mexico, at least by a computer.

There will be about 6 area codes for the Los Angeles area. This is consistant with the population density.

So I think this is a good idea.

-karl k5di

79. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
 Date: Sat, 20 Aug 1994 12:02:29 -0400 (EDT)
 To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408201255.A24719-0100000@dec>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 20 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```

> > I run a pbbs in PA, and our network for PA is PANET. I think it would be
> > simpler for everyone to go to a standard... Like PABBS.
> > What do you think Hank?
>
> I think PA is simpler ... we use OR and it works just fine,
> and we don't even HAVE to explain it to the users.
>
> That "BBS" is just extra garbage that adds no value.

```

True. Now, how do we convince the rest of the packet world that we should go to a standard like this?

```

73, de Bill, N3JIX
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlb@dec.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *

```

* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****
* Packet : n3jix@k9iu.#sil.il.usa.na Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *

80. Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Sat, 20 Aug 1994 13:30:51 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Cc: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408201218.A12786-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 20 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
> Subject: Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 12:45:16 -0400
>
> Robert, I think you may have missed the point.
>
> Say a person in Ohio will be travelling to Texas, and wants to send a
> bulletin to all BBSs in Texas -- from Ohio -- to ask about repeaters, etc.
>
> How can this be accomplished?
>
> The issue isn't simply regional flood routes -- it's how can one *outside* a
> region send a bulletin which will flood a targeted region.

While I have actively fought the -random- use of this method, maybe we should look at a way of using a standardized method of addressing spot flood bulletins with the hierarchical address.

What if:

It were standardized that any bulletin sent to a specific area were sent @REGION. The word REGION is the exact word used by all, period, hard coded.

Each @REGION bulletin contained a full hierarchical address, using the depth of the fields to designate how wide the area is to cover (example later).

All software were written to treat @REGION special. @REGION bulletins would be sent to each station who has the hierarchical address in its forward file.

Example:

SB RPTRS @ REGION.#DFW.TX.USA.NA

This message would travel through the system, from one station to the next in the same way a message addressed SP CALL@CALL.#DFW.TX.USA.NA would. When it got to a station that sends #DFW.TX.USA.NA to more than one station, it would do just that. Software would treat this message as a P message and not show it to users at enroute stations. Or, it could be sent as a P and changed to a B by the software at the first station who was actually .#DWF.etc. Or, and I like this better, @REGION simply would not list unless the h-address matched the callsign of the bbs it was being listed on. This last logic would allow expansion of this method for other purposes with P or B traffic in the future.

If the originating station wanted to cover all of Texas, instead of just DFW, he would leave off one field.

SB RPTRS @ REGION.TX.USA.NA

This message would go to all TX.USA.NA stations, be readable by all in that area, and not be listed on the intermediate stations.

Expansion and further thought on this could lead to even more ideas. Other "key words" in the @ field could be treated similarly for other special uses.

Gary

mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us AGON@AGON.#WNE.NE.USA.NA
Gary McDuffie, Sr. 80038 County Road 27 Scottsbluff, NE 69361

81. Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)

From: JKAHRS@delphi.com
Date: Sat, 20 Aug 1994 16:37:08 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <01HG50J3T7VM9BVHQE@delphi.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On 20-AUG-1994 02:44:43.6 bbssig said to JKAHRS

> From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
> Subject: Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 12:45:16 -0400
> At 03:15 PM 8/18/94 CDT, From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM> wrote:
> >
> >I frequently send messages s dx @ texas
> >Just for distribution inside texas. It works fine.
> >why can't they do it in OHIO??
> >--
> Robert, I think you may have missed the point.
> Say a person in Ohio will be travelling to Texas, and wants to send a
> bulletin to all BBSs in Texas -- from Ohio -- to ask about repeaters,
> etc.
> How can this be accomplished?

How soon we forget...we just use @WW or @ALLUS!!!!

> The issue isn't simply regional flood routes -- it's how can one
> *outside* a region send a bulletin which will flood a targeted region.
> 73, Andy

I couldnt resist that comment. In Florida we use FLBBS. There was no
large declaration of intent, and no verbal abuse to those that didnt use
it. When the MAJOR packet folks started using it, others soon followed.
Little pistols want to look like big guns.... Its human nature.

73, Hank K2UVG
Niceville <G>, FL
JKAHRS@delphi.com

82. Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Sat, 20 Aug 94 14:17:34 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408201417.ZM29199@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 20, 2:20am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> Subject: Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)
> From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
> Subject: Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)
> To: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>
> Date: Fri, 19 Aug 1994 19:28:39 -0500 (CDT)
> >
> >
> > At 03:15 PM 8/18/94 CDT, From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM> wrote:
> > >
> > >I frequently send messages s dx @ texas
> > >Just for distribution inside texas. It works fine.
> > >why can't they do it in OHIO??
> > >--
> > >
> > Robert, I think you may have missed the point.
> > >
> > Say a person in Ohio will be travelling to Texas, and wants to send a
> > bulletin to all BBSs in Texas -- from Ohio -- to ask about repeaters, etc.
> > >
> > How can this be accomplished?
> > >
> > The issue isn't simply regional flood routes -- it's how can one *outside*
> > a
> > region send a bulletin which will flood a targeted region.
> > >
> > 73, Andy
> > --
> > _____ Andrew Funk, KB7UV _____
> >
> First I check with the local BBS that does all forwarding in/out
> Houston and see what areas he supports. This is one method.

> Now for FBB users, type LS REDIST

How do I connect to that BBS from up here in Oregon?

<...>

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

83. Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins (was Re: Petition...)

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Sun, 21 Aug 1994 08:40:04 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408210840.aa28679@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Gary, your region idea is exactly what the redistribution servers do. & they work well.

--
73

=====

Robert Wood
WB5CRG
w5robert@blkbox.com (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc.!)
w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu
=====

84. Re: Message Content

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
Date: Sun, 21 Aug 1994 10:54:37 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408211015.A3779-0100000@dec>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 21 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> I don't think you can gain much from downgrading Bill. Suggest
> you run MEMMAKER and see if you can load anything more high in memory.
> That leaves more for your deskvue windows.

Well, accually, I got more memory after I started to use qemm than memmaker.

memmmaker chokes on 2 megs of ram...

> When you find a good deal on another 2 meg of ram, get it. Then
> you will be real happy.

Yeah, that's what I've been looking for is 4 megs of ram... I have 256k simms in it now... So, someday I'll find some ram cheap at a ham fest and buy it...

> CBBS 7.30, wow! I think my time with CBBS was at version 3.??

Yeah, it works great! I've tried a few bbs packages, but for the size, speed, stability, and configurability, CBBS won... Ed, K3RLI just released 7.30 a few months ago... Saw him at a hamfest, and he gave me a disk with the new version on it... Sneaker net... {Grin}

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX	* Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlb@dec.bloomu.edu	* Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na	*****
* Packet : n3jix@k9iu.#sil.il.usa.na	Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *

85. Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins -redist server info

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Sun, 21 Aug 1994 15:39:04 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408211539.ab19347@blkbox.COM>

Rendered body type: text/plain

This is how to use the REDISTribution server. This is used to keep the volume of traffic down (such as sending a SB CQ @ WW when you only want a country in Europe). I will be sending the list of bbs's that handle REDIST sepcor.
(these lists appear on the local bbs here, I just did "ls redist" found the messages and 4 lists of servers -wb5crg)

SOCAL and North MEXICO Satellite Gateway
73, John, AA6QN @ AA6QN.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA

~~~~~ REDIST - Message Re-distribution Server ~~~~~

~~~~~ Introduction ~~~~~

As a sysop I've often been asked "I know how to send a bulletin to everyone at a BBS, but how do I send a bulletin to everyone in xxxxxx". xxxxxx might be a large city in Europe, a state in America or the whole of Australia. Sometimes it's to trace relatives in the area, other times to find out details for a forthcoming holiday in that part of the world. Whatever the reason people often want to address bulletins to different regions.

This question must obviously be on the minds of many users. How often do you see messages to 'ALL @ EU' or even worse, 'ALL @ WW' where someone is trying to attract the attention of users in just a small area of Europe or the world?

(lots deleted)

Instructions

The REDIST server is addressed using four different names, depending on the size of the area that you want the bulletin to cover. The four server names are LOCBBS, LOCAL, REGION and NATION. If you want to send a bulletin only to the remote BBS, then you would use the LOCBBS server. To send a bulletin to the few BBSs surrounding the remote BBS, then you would send a message to the LOCAL server. Similarly to address messages to a larger area around the BBS you would use the REGION server and for the entire country that the BBS is in you would use the NATION server.

All four servers are used in the same way. In the following example, just replace the 'LOCAL' with 'LOCBBS', 'REGION' or 'NATION' to use the other servers.

~~~~~  
SP LOCAL @ BBScall <----or SP LOCBBS, SP REGION or SP NATION  
Test Message <----Subject - put anything here

This is the text of a test message to the LOCAL server at BBScall.

/EX or CTRL-Z  
~~~~~

NB. It is essential that your message is sent to the server using 'SP' and not 'SB'. If you use SB the server will NOT process your message.

When your message arrives at the BBS running the server it will be processed and re-distributed as a bulletin to 'ALL @ xxxxxx' where 'xxxxxx' is the translation the sysop of the remote BBS has chosen for LOCBBS, LOCAL, REGION or NATION, depending on which server you used.

When the server has distributed your message a reply will be sent to you confirming that the distribution has been completed successfully. Remember that this reply may take a few days to get back to you if the remote BBS is in another country.

The server adds information to the copied bulletin that will allow anyone reading your redistributed bulletin to use the 'SR' command to send a reply to you.

~~~~~ Special facilities ~~~~~

If you want to address your message to something other than 'ALL', then you must add the relevant 'TO' field, preceded by the '#' character and followed by a space, at the start of the subject line. For example:

```
~~~~~
SP REGION @ BBScall      <----or SP LOCBBS, SP LOCAL or SP NATION
#50MHZ Test Message      <----Subject
~~~~~
```

This is the text of a test message to the REGION server at BBScall.

/EX or CTRL-Z

~~~~~

The above message would distribute a bulletin as  
'SB 50MHZ @ xxxxxx' where 'xxxxxx' is whatever region is defined by the sysop @ BBScall.

NB. You don't need to use the above format in the subject line. If you omit the information then your message will still be distributed to 'ALL @ xxxxxx'. The remote sysop may choose not to use 'ALL'. If not, your bulletin will be sent out with some locally relevant TO field.

NB. It is essential that you precede any change to the 'TO' field in the subject line with the '#' character and put a space between the end of the replacement TO field and the remainder of the subject line. Replacement TO fields can be up to 6 characters.

#### List of BBSs supporting REDIST

~~~~~

Hopefully you should find a copy of the file REDIST.BBS on the BBS where you read this file. (some deleted)

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This software can be freely distributed for use by radio amateurs for non-commercial purposes. This documentation may be included in articles or books produced for amateur radio purposes as long as the author is acknowledged.

This is a small list (example) of the redist servers

Title : REDIST4.BBS

BBS : VE6RCH.#COLD_LAKE.AB.CAN, COLD LAKE, AB. (D044MX)
LOCBBS = COLD LAKE
LOCAL = NORTH EAST ALBERTA
REGION = ?
NATION = CANADA

BBS : VE6YYC.#CGY.AB.CAN.NA, Calgary AB (D021XA)
LOCBBS = CALGARY
LOCAL = ALBERTA
REGION =
NATION = CANADA

BBS : VE7BPH.#SCBC.BC.CAN.NA, Sorrento (??????)
LOCBBS = Not Supported
LOCAL = OKNET
REGION = PNW
NATION = Canada

BBS : VE7CQZ.#VANC.BC.CAN.NA, Vancouver (??????)
LOCBBS = Not Supported
LOCAL = LOCAL
REGION = PNW
NATION = Canada

BBS : VE7DIE.#ISLAND.BC.CAN.NA, Victoria (??????)
LOCBBS = Not Supported
LOCAL = ISLAND
REGION = North British Columbia
NATION = Canada

BBS : VK3BBS.VIC.AUS.OC, St Albans (QF22JG)
 LOCBBS = St Albans
 LOCAL = Melbourne, Australia
 REGION = Victoria, Australia
 NATION = Australia

BBS : VK3BVP.VIC.AUS.OC, Tyers, qf31fu (QF31FU)
 LOCBBS = LaTrobe Valley
 LOCAL = Gippsland (SE Victoria)
 REGION = Victoria
 NATION = Australia and surrounds

BBS : VK5AET.#RIV.#SA.AUS.OC, Berri, SA (QF05HR)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = Berri, SA
 REGION = VK5
 NATION = Australia

BBS : VK5WI.#ADL.#SA.AUS.OC, Adelaide (PF95GA)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = Adelaide
 REGION = VK5
 NATION = Australia

BBS : VK5ZK.#ADL.#SA.AUS.OC, Adelaide (PF95GA)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = Adelaide
 REGION = VK5
 NATION = Australia

BBS : VK6ANC.#PER.#WA.AUS.OC, Perth (OF78VD)
 LOCBBS = VK6ANC BBS only
 LOCAL = Perth BBS's only
 REGION = Western Austrlian BBS's only
 NATION = Australian/ZL BBS's only

BBS : VK6LI.#HRV.#WA.AUS.OC, Harvey (OF76VV)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = SNET
 REGION = VK6
 NATION = Australia

BBS : VK6RAW.#KNG.#WA.AUS.OC, Katanning (OF86SD)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = ALHLAN
 REGION = VK6
 NATION = Australia

BBS : VK6SR.#ALH.#WA.AUS.OC, Lower King (OF85XB)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = ALHLAN
 REGION = VK6
 NATION = Australia

BBS : VK6XPS.#PER.#WA.AUS.OC, Perth (OF78WD)
 LOCBBS = VK6XPS BBS only
 LOCAL = Perth BBS's only
 REGION = Western Australian BBS's only
 NATION = Australian/NZ BBS's only

BBS : VK6YBP.#PER.#WA.AUS.OC, Perth (OF78WD)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = Perth
 REGION = VK6
 NATION = Australia

BBS : W4DPH.#TPA.FLA.USA.NA, Clearwater (??????)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = Tampa
 REGION = Florida
 NATION = USA

BBS : W4MM.#SWGQ.GA.USA.NA, Albany (??????)
 LOCBBS = Not Supported
 LOCAL = Albany
 REGION = SW Georgia
 NATION = USA

BBS : W8HHF.#TOL.OH.USA.NA, TOLEDO (EN81FR)

LOCBBS = Toledo, Ohio
LOCAL = North West Ohio
REGION = All Ohio
NATION = All United States
BBS : WA0JXT.#GFK.ND.USA.NA, Grand Forks (??????)
LOCBBS = Not Supported
LOCAL = Grand Forks
REGION = MBND
NATION = USA

BBS : WG1I.#EMA.MA.USA.NA, Medford (??????)
LOCBBS = Not Supported
LOCAL = EMABBS
REGION = NEBBS
NATION = USA

--
73
Robert Wood
WB5CRG
w5robert@blkbox.com (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc.)
w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu

86. Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins -redist server info

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Mon, 22 Aug 1994 05:11:25 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408220503.A14361-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Well, I'll have to admit, it's similar! However, it isn't the same. I'm not sure how long this REDIST thing has been running. I've only seen reference to it in the last week, and to tell the truth, didn't pay any attention to it.

I don't see what sort of advantage the REDIST server has (other than it is here NOW). Why have a "few" servers when it could/should be built into the very software of the BBS where the message originates? Each user would know how to use it, because it would be in the help file of his local board, and wouldn't have to hunt up info on where the nearest server is located, etc.

Thanks to the several of you who replied saying that the REDIST server did the same as my "plan", and yes, it was MY plan. I had no idea what a REDIST server was until I read the description a few minutes ago.

Take another look at my explanation and examples. This isn't the same thing as a REDIST server. It IS similar, but works even better, as I see it.

Gary

87. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 22 Aug 94 10:24:50 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408221024.ZM3934@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 21, 1:34am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...
> From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Sat, 20 Aug 1994 12:02:29 -0400 (EDT)
>
>
>
> On Sat, 20 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
>
> > I run a pbbs in PA, and our network for PA is PANET. I think it would be
> > simpler for everyone to go to a standard... Like PABBS.
> > What do you think Hank?
> >
> > I think PA is simpler ... we use OR and it works just fine,
> > and we don't even HAVE to explain it to the users.
> >
> > That "BBS" is just extra garbage that adds no value.

>
> True. Now, how do we convince the rest of the packet world that we
> should go to a standard like this?

We just did it.

Anything coming into the area addressed @ ALLUSA or USABBS or ALLUS
is translated to @ USA. Anything sent @ ALLOR, ALLORS, ALLORN, OREGON
is translated to @ OR. Over time, the users noticed and changed
their behavior. I've not seen anyone enter @ ALLOR for about a year.

And of course

SB HELP @ OR.OR.USA.NOAM

sent from anywhere in the world will reach Oregon and be seen
by everyone in Oregon, and won't go anywhere else.

It's simple, and it works.

Before anyone says "But (RLI, MSYS, 4RE, FBB, ...) can't do this."
I will simply note that we have all thos flavors of bbs, and more,
and they all CAN do it.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

88. Re: Remote Flooding of Bulletins -redist server info

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Sat, 20 Aug 94 13:58:00 PDT
To: 'bbssig' <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <2E590F35@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Add me to the list of REDIST Servers...

BBS : N4CNW.#TPA.FLA.USA.NA, Clearwater (EL8705)
LOCBBS = Not Supported
LOCAL = Tampa
REGION = Florida
NATION = USA

73 Mike

89. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Mon, 22 Aug 1994 15:07:17 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <940822150717.e2f@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The 4RE action file can translate any incoming message into whatever you
want it to be including changing the message type from B to P to T or
whatever... Further, for those who worry about such things, the action
file may be tailored very specifically for any kind of message to do just
about anything to it! Of course, I'm prejudiced - hi!

90. Re: Standards for BBSes and Bulletins...

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 23 Aug 1994 09:06:25 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408230924.A16110-0100000@dec>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 22 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
> > True. Now, how do we convince the rest of the packet world that we
> > should go to a standard like this?

>
> We just did it.

Good, now how do we get everyone else to follow this standard?

> It's simple, and it works.

Yes, and I like it...

> Before anyone says "But (RLI, MSYS, 4RE, FBB, ...) can't do this."
> I will simply note that we have all thos flavors of bbs, and more,
> and they all CAN do it.

Sure they can... I know CBBS does, and I'm sure RLI does... So, if they don't, too bad... {grin}

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlb@dec.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****
* Packet : n3jix@k9iu.#sin.in.usa.na Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *

91. Mobile Packet

From: iltmh@ilvdm-13.ampr.org (Dario Vercelli ilvdm)
Date: Wed, 24 Aug 94 11:43:07 GMT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <51667@ilvdm-13.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain
Grugliasco, August 24, 1994

Re: Mobile Packet, Bulletin from G6RZA to ALL @ EU titled:
" Using Packet when abroad ? "

G6RZA says ----->

> Hallo everyone across Europe,
> Does anyone know how you operate packet if abroad ?
> For instance, I have a laptop and a baycom modem, and with a
> handie I have a portable setup, I have operated in this
> country, There is, as far as I am aware, no provision for this
> within the licence we hold. What I did was use a SSID which
> is not normally used, and set the beacon text to show the
> Location and the proper callsign. i.e. G6RZA/M as I was
> using, I used a different SSID as I was still within range of
> my normal station.

> However once I cross the channel I can't really use G6RZA as
> mycall, as my call is now, F/G6RZA/M, and as we all know the
> call field will not support this call, If I put in FG6RZA,
> I could be mistaken for someone else (Isthere a class, which
> uses FG ? in france. I don't think the TNC will adept FG6RZAM
> either, it's too big ! - let alone ONG6RZAM if I was ON-land.

> Has anyone got any constructive ideas about this,
> perhaps there is legislation around which gives this,
> (Perhaps some countries don't allow mobile/Portable
> operation of Packet. - I don't know, I haven't looked into
> this) operating TCP/IP /m would not be practicle, for various
> reasons. so just "normal" ax.25.

> What do you lot think ? apart from possibly upsetting White
> pages... Has the RSGB/DCC (UK Radio society's datacomms
> committee) addressed this in any way ? (Not that I think there
> is great need, yet..!)

> 73 de Mark,

> Sunny Newhaven, East Sussex. G6RZA @ GB7ZZZ

Hi Mark,
You put on the table a very interesting matter !
I operated Packet from several countries, and a lot going around
Italy.
Packet by itself in mobile is one of my best experience,

>
> > Has anyone got any constructive ideas about this,
> > perhaps there is legislation around which gives this,
> > (Perhaps some countries don't allow mobile/Portable
> > operation of Packet. - I don't know, I haven't looked into
> > this) operating TCP/IP /m would not be practice, for various
> > reasons. so just "normal" ax.25.
>
> > What do you lot think ? apart from possibly upsetting White
> > pages... Has the RSGB/DCC (UK Radio society's datacomms
> > committee) addressed this in any way ? (Not that I think there
> > is great need, yet..!)

>
> > 73 de Mark,
>
> > Sunny Newhaven, East Sussex. G6RZA @ GB7ZZZ
>
>
>Hi Mark,
> You put on the table a very interesting matter !
> I operated Packet from several countries, and a lot going around
>Italy.
> Packet by itself in mobile is one of my best experience,
>but what make it difficult to use, is the AX25 limits and the
>new CB usage that Amateur Radio hard try to introduce in the
>Amateur Service for "amusement of everybody" !
> As you say, you cannot use the legal /P call when abroad. I
>superseded the problem using the complete /P call in the Beacon,
>or in the R line in a BBS.
> But I also always used in my laptop a G8BPQ node; you can use
>the alias of the node for your /p call. In TCP-IP you have the
>internal Node that can also configure the alias.
> Why you say not practical TCP-IP ? I thing it gives you good
>experience, particularly with 10 or 6 meters, dominating
>capricious or unstable propagation.
> In my going around the World no one complained ! No rules
>everywhere. Good time to propose to our Government a portable
>regulation for the incoming Packet rules. I say to our
>Government, our IARU societies are only pushing for reducing
>Packet to a circular diffusion of guided information for their
>members.
> The worst problem, particularly for TCP-IP is that, at least
>in Italy, a Network does not exist more, replaced by a BBS
>chain that being far from a Amateur Radio experiment, is
>becoming more and more a CB circular distribution of "non Radio
>nor Amateur Radio" general information.
> By the way a CB Packet Radio network, perfectly legal, in Italy
>is even more powerful than the Amateur Radio one !
> If you intend nowadays to use Packet in Mobile, in foreign
>countries, forget it in Italy: you find only a BBS diffusion
>but not free, in the majority of cases, you must register
>yourself at a BBS that acts as a Private Club, and give a
>password to all their members.
> In the past, when a real network did exist, and every Node
>showed all the Network status, it was very easy to operate a BBS
>or a TCP-IP from your car or from a Hotel room: You put on the
>air your Node and in an hour everybody could notice your presence
>and make contacts with you.
> I would like so much to receive info about the situation and the
>possibility to perform "technical RADIO experiments" with Packet
>in your country.
>
> 73 Sergio I1TMH @ I1TMH
>
>Ciao Sergio, de in3nhz in Trento
>rbiscani@cs.unitn.it
>
>
>

93. Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 28 Aug 94 7:44:06 CDT
To: bbssig
Message-ID: <9408281244.AA125185@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends that the TAPR
Board of Directors adopts the 2.3.4 hierarchical address

protocol.

At the recent ARRL National Digital Communications Conference held in Minneapolis (Aug 19-21), the recommendation was announced during the BBS SIG Forum. Follows are excerpts from a handout that was distributed at the meeting:

=====

TUCSON AMATEUR PACKET RADIO'S BBS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
ENDORSES THE 2.3.4 HIERARCHICAL ADDRESS STANDARD!

After considerable discussion of W3IWI's proposal to "do it right" and either enhance or scrap the original 2.3.2 hierarchical address standard, the TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends the adoption of the 2.3.4 standard on an international basis. example of 2.3.4: @WA6GVD.CA.USA.NOAM
example of 2.3.2: @WA6GVD.CA.USA.NA

It is important to note that there is a distinct and significant difference between HIERARCHICAL ADDRESSES and FLOOD DESIGNATORS. Hierarchical address elements are common to all messages (bulletins, P and T types) and are the foundation of the digital forwarding system. Flood designators are used for routing and filtering bulletins. Geographical flood designators are likely based upon hierarchical address elements. It is therefore imperative that any attempt to establish standards concentrate first on hierarchical address elements. Standards for flood designators can follow.

THERE ARE GOOD REASONS FOR 2.3.4

There is a fundamental need to keep continental elements in hierarchical addresses. Packet messages are forwarded by radio and non-radio means. There are political aspects to the forwarding of certain message types (such as 'for sale' bulletins, and the possibility of restrictions against communications between particular countries). Packet differs from other electronic communications because it works in the physical, political and virtual realms. These necessitate having address elements that 'address' all of these aspects.

There should be no potential duplication between address components. Duplication might hamper future software development and create forwarding conflicts with non-amateur digital networks carrying amateur traffic.

WE CAN'T SCRAP THE CONTINENTAL ELEMENT

The continental address element can greatly simplify the forwarding files of smaller bulletin board systems. Without the continental element, some BBS software requires tedious entries for each ISO country element, sometimes repeated several times.

The decision for the TAPR BBS Special Interest Group to recommend the 2.3.4 hierarchical address standard was the culmination of much on-line discussion over the past several months on TAPR's Internet BBSSIG. TAPR's position has received the endorsement of BBS software authors Hank Oredson, W0RLI and Roy Engehausen, AA4RE.

The full text will be published next week on the BBSSIG for general distribution and solicitation for comment. After a brief reply period, the proposal will be presented to the TAPR Board of Directors. The text of the recommendation will be published in the next issue of TAPR's official journal, Packet Status Register.

=====

It is important to point out that by 'next issue, of the PSR, this refers to the one in the works, not the one that just mailed at the end of this week.

Other items directly pertaining to making BBS operation more efficient include

a) a study (mainly by Greg Jones, but to paraphrase the kid in

the Shake 'n Bake commercial, "I'm helping.") of message headers. Very preliminary study indicates that approx half of the content of all messages are HEADER. Yes, it doesn't take more than the IQ of Forrest Gump to look at a message (header and all) to recognize that there's a lot of overhead that is a big user of network time, hard disk space, etc. No quantitative analysis has been performed and published, to our knowledge. After more thorough analysis and publication of the result, a natural follow-up will be some suggestion to the software folks to add an option allowing for an abbreviated audit trail. Maybe get rid of the audit trail completely except for the originating and current stations (default) and allow for a more complete audit trail (triggered by a switch in the originating header or ???) for testing purposes. IF YOU WANT TO SERVE ON A VIRTUAL COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER OVERHEAD CREATED BY MESSAGE HEADERS AND POSSIBLE WAYS TO REDUCE IT, step forward now.

b) flood designators and standardized 'TO' fields. Yep, there has been some work done on this regionally. Many thanks to Andy Funk for sharing the paper presented in the Tri-State area last year which included a section on standardized floods and 'to' fields. Hey, this is as hot an issue as hierarchical addressing, and also needs a VIRTUAL COMMITTEE TO WORK ON THIS ISSUE. Step forward now.

To avoid burnout and permit action and closure on these issues in as short a time as possible, it is probably best to serve on one committee at a time. Opinions on all issues, whether you are on a committee or not are encouraged, of course!

One item that was brought up at the SIG Meeting in Minneapolis and I've received messages on packet and CompuServe about it: it would be highly desirable if there were a 'best of' the BBS SIG available on the packet network, diskette, CompuServe (AOL, Prodigy, etc.). In order for this to come about, the on-line forum needs a SCRIBE; someone to save all of the exchanges that take place on BBS SIG, distill out the significant stuff, then port it to other services. Any volunteers? PLEASE STEP FORWARD NOW.

When time permits, an overview of the BBS SIG Forum at Minneapolis. MESSAGE CONTENT continues to be the number one issue for BBS Sysops. Some of the concerns:

we invest a lot of bucks in hardware and time in maintaining it and it is troublesome that we are babysitting a national WHINE and SWAP AND SHOP messaging service. Do junkie bulletins (one man's trash is another man's treasure, alas) displace P and T types? Are many of the messages appropriate for the amateur service? What is broadcasting and does it need to be legislated? How do we better educate users and other sysops?

More to follow...

73 de Dave Wolf, W05H, BBS SIG Chair

94. Hierarchical Addresses

From: iw1cxz@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org.
Date: Mon, 29 Aug 94 01:07:42 utc
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <17160@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org.>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Grugliasco, August 21, 1994

Re: Hierarchical Distribution and Call Letters.
To: Amateur Radio and Post Offices or Telephone
Companies Organizers.

I read some Bulletins, particularly those issued by VE6EEI and K6DI, regarding the hierarchical distribution of the BBS mail.

VE6EEI propose to use the telephone area codes to do it, K6DI approve the idea, demonstrating that in any case every area code, national and international does the job without doubt and repetitions.

Some other bulletins propose the use of the area code used in the Post Offices, some the name of the town, country, province and civic number of the BBS !

In Italy they superseded the discussion, inventing fantasy names like IPIE that meaning Italy and Piemonte, doubles the indication of the Country making smiling also chicken.

Boys, do we forget that we "Amateur Radio" have a Call Letters system made to avoid any misunderstanding and that with no doubt says to everybody where and who we are ??

If we want you can add that any national or international regulations oblige Amateur Radio to use only the assigned call letters to make contacts and punish any falsification or adulteration of it.

I think that all the BBS software are made by good software person, used to work in communication or telephone companies: They know perhaps very well the commercial communication problems, but they know very little about RF and Amateur Radio.

We are Unique in our "not professional work", we invented even a "WW Locator" to do not depend on the conventional geography, and now with Packet we show that we are unable to handle our technical mail without the help of Commercial Companies ?

Remember that FCC say that "Amateur Radio Service must not be in competition with any other Service" !

So I kindly ask the BBS software makers to do not copy any competitive way to handle mail, but to modify any distribution method, hierarchical or not, making it able to HANDLE CALL LETTERS, at least helped by the WW Locator !

Which BBS software does arrive first ? Sure I'll replace it in my BBS system !

73 Sergio, I1TMH

```

                                     ////
                                     (o o)
-----o00-( )-00o-----
| 73 de IW1CXZ Andrea Borgnino- IK1QLD-10 Universita' di Torino Team - NWIDG |
|                                     |
|           Ampr Tcp-IP > iw1cxz@ik1qld-10.ampr.org |
|           Email Internet > andrea@radio-gw.cisi.unito.it |
|           Email Packet AX25 BBS > iw1cxz@ilylm.ipie.ita.eu |
-----
```

95. Re: Hierarchical Addresses

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Mon, 29 Aug 1994 14:17:28 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199408290417.0AA09642@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 8:56 PM 28/8/94 -0500, Andrea Borgnino wrote:

> So I kindly ask the BBS software makers to do not copy any
> competitive way to handle mail, but to modify any distribution
> method, hierarchical or not, making it able to HANDLE CALL
> LETTERS, at least helped by the WW Locator !
> Which BBS software does arrive first ? Sure I'll replace it in
> my BBS system !

Call signs are totally useless for addressing mail. They give absolutely no indication of where the station is.

Using call prefixes in the address is only slightly better as this would require (basically) the entire DXCC list at EVERY BBS!

The WW locator is also of little use in addressing mail. There are 3 BBSs in Canberra that cover pretty much the same area but on different frequencies and huge gobs of space around that is covered by NO bbs. Addressing based on WW locator would need to contain other information as well to identify the specific BBS and would end up little different to the current PBBS addressing method.

The PBBS system has developed it's own addressing method which is NOT derived from "commercial" systems. That addressing method has problems and is not perfect but it is workable.

There is also no reason to not copy a "commercial" system if it works, is readily adaptable and is free of copyright or patent problems.

The Amateur Service isn't some private club. We shouldn't be developing tools, software and procedures that are totally incompatible with the rest of the world just for the sake of making it "uniquely Amateur". This is stupid and we'll just end up talking to nobody.

Carl.

--

Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

96. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Mon, 29 Aug 1994 14:17:23 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199408290417.0AA09636@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 8:45 PM 28/8/94 -0500, Dave Wolf wrote:

> The TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends that the TAPR
> Board of Directors adopts the 2.3.4 hierarchical address
> protocol.

<sigh> Thanks for consulting the world on this one. The 2.3.4 "standard"
breaks in Australia. :-(We don't have a 2 letter short version of all our
states. Some are 2 letter (SA, WA, NT) and some are 3 letter (NSW, VIC,
ACT, QLD, TAS).

I thought the discussion was about a 4 letter continent code. Obviously I
was wrong.

> THERE ARE GOOD REASONS FOR 2.3.4

> There should be no potential duplication between address
> components. Duplication might hamper future software
> development and create forwarding conflicts with non-amateur
> digital networks carrying amateur traffic.

Duplication of the rightmost parts of the address should be avoided to help
stop misaddressed mail but I'm not convinced of the need to make sure EVERY
qualifier is unique. It works fine in the US but is going to be a pain in
the behind elsewhere.

Carl.

--

Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

97. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: djkd@dirku.demon.co.uk (Dirk-Jan Koopman)
Date: Tue, 30 Aug 1994 09:32:32 +0200 (BST)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <m0QfOck-0004gAC@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
> Subject: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> To: bbssig
> Date: Sun, 28 Aug 94 7:44:06 CDT
>
> The TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends that the TAPR
> Board of Directors adopts the 2.3.4 hierarchical address
> protocol.
>
> At the recent ARRL National Digital Communications Conference
> held in Minneapolis (Aug 19-21), the recommendation was
> announced during the BBS SIG Forum. Follows are excerpts from
> a handout that was distributed at the meeting:
>
> =====
>
> TUCSON AMATEUR PACKET RADIO'S BBS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
> ENDORSES THE 2.3.4 HIERARCHICAL ADDRESS STANDARD!
>
> After considerable discussion of W3IWI's proposal to "do it

> right" and either enhance or scrap the original 2.3.2
> hierarchical address standard, the TAPR BBS Special Interest
> Group recommends the adoption of the 2.3.4 standard on an
> international basis. example of 2.3.4: @WA6GVD.CA.USA.NOAM
> example of 2.3.2: @WA6GVD.CA.USA.NA
>

2.3.4 works wonderfully for the US. What about the rest of us please?

Could I respectfully suggest that we adopt a 'x.3.4' format where x is nationally defined (ie 2 in the US, 3 in the UK (and I believe Japan) etc).

Luv

Dirk

G1TLH @ GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU(RO)

98. TPK 182 needed

From: Daniel Audet <daudet@LLC.org>
Date: Tue, 30 Aug 1994 06:31:47 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.85.9408300647.A16480-0100000@biko.llc.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi everyone , i heard that TPK 182 is out . Anybody have an idea where we can FTP that new version of TPK 182
just post you answer on that SIG
thanks

73 de Dan, ax.25net: VE2PNK@VE2PSQ.#SFOY.PQ.CAN.NA
 amprnet: not yet but it's coming
 internet: daudet@biko.llc.org
 fax: 418-622-5363
 tel: 418-622-3238

99. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 30 Aug 1994 14:53:57 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408301447.C21558-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 30 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: djku@dirku.demon.co.uk (Dirk-Jan Koopman)
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Tue, 30 Aug 1994 09:32:32 +0200 (BST)
>
>
> > From: dwolf (Dave Wolf)
> > Subject: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> > To: bbssig
> > Date: Sun, 28 Aug 94 7:44:06 CDT
> >
> > The TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends that the TAPR
> > Board of Directors adopts the 2.3.4 hierarchical address
> > protocol.
> >
> > At the recent ARRL National Digital Communications Conference
> > held in Minneapolis (Aug 19-21), the recommendation was
> > announced during the BBS SIG Forum. Follows are excerpts from
> > a handout that was distributed at the meeting:
> >
> > =====
> >
> > TUCSON AMATEUR PACKET RADIO'S BBS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
> > ENDORSES THE 2.3.4 HIERARCHICAL ADDRESS STANDARD!
> >
> > After considerable discussion of W3IWI's proposal to "do it
> > right" and either enhance or scrap the original 2.3.2
> > hierarchical address standard, the TAPR BBS Special Interest
> > Group recommends the adoption of the 2.3.4 standard on an

> > international basis. example of 2.3.4: @WA6GVD.CA.USA.NOAM
 > > example of 2.3.2: @WA6GVD.CA.USA.NA
 > >
 >
 > 2.3.4 works wonderfully for the US. What about the rest of us please?
 >
 > Could I respectfully suggest that we adopt a 'x.3.4' format where x is
 > nationally defined (ie 2 in the US, 3 in the UK (and I believe Japan)
 > etc).
 >
 > Luv
 >
 > Dirk
 >
 > G1TLH @ GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU(R0)

Dirk you MUST have seen the 2 from the 2.3.4 that this tapr group talks about. That 2 is "#NENH.NH" and it seems to me it takes just a tad over 2 letters to write....

I am also pleased that the tapr group endorses shorter (fewer bytes) in the R: line but supports ADDING a byte to the end of things. The reason for having the current .NA changed to .NOAM is to assure there is no confusion should a ham packet message ever get on the Internet. This I believe is reaching to excessive levels to correct a non-problem.

karl k5di

100. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
 Date: Tue, 30 Aug 94 16:56:52 PDT
 To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <9408301656.ZM6972@hanko>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 30, 6:37pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
 > Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
 > From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
 > Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
 > To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 > Date: Tue, 30 Aug 1994 14:53:57 -0600 (MDT)

>
 > I am also pleased that the tapr group endorses shorter (fewer
 > bytes) in the R: line but supports ADDING a byte to the end of things.
 > The reason for having the current .NA changed to .NOAM is to assure there
 > is no confusion should a ham packet message ever get on the Internet.
 > This I believe is reaching to excessive levels to correct a non-problem.

The real issue is simply to pick ONE standard.
 ANY standard.

We have had TWO standards since 1986.
 I doubt there is anyone who really cares which standard it is
 (except for the "my NA is better than your NOAM" and "my NOAM
 is better than your NA" children).

It has been suggested that we authors simply hard-code this.
 Ok, fair enough. I'll hard-code the "TAPR standard" and cause
 any messages that do not use it to be returned to sender.

Any problem with that?
 Well SURE there is!
 It would bounce gazillions of messages that the USERS thought
 they had addressed properly.

Well, ok, I'll hard-code a TRANSLATION!
 Any problem with that?
 Well SURE there is!
 Bazzillions of sysops will yell at me.

So I just code to handle both / either ... and the USERS remain
 confused ... because we don't have a standard ... ANY standard ...

Things have been this way since about 1986.
 I have zero faith they can be changed.

It is so much more fun for the children to yammer on and on about
 "My NOAM can beat up your NA any day, with TWO serial ports tied
 behind it's back."

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

101. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Tue, 30 Aug 1994 21:16:39 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408302116.aa02024@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

As far as the R: headers - the thing I've used them for is to see "who changed the bid". Other than the callsign of the BBS passing the message and the bid as it left, what else is needed? I'm asking - not saying there isn't some other use. And I agree on the NA issue as Karl said, a non-problem. messages with NA are already being passed from BBS to BBS via internet.

--

73

=====

Robert Wood
WB5CRG
w5robert@blkbox.com (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc!)
w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu
=====

102. Progress!

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 31 Aug 1994 11:51:52 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408311130.A3053-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

This tapr sig was started in February 1994 at the tapr meeting in tucson. I have heard TONS of words on this sig. I have been asked to do things for the sig and volunteered to do some work. I have heard NOTHING from the moderator so assume what I was going to do is not important. I saw a request for more "help wanted" in a message this week. I have decided not to volunteer again. It doesn't seem to work.

I suggest Mr. Wolf needs to get a secretary to send out information we engineers call FEEDBACK. I for one would like to know who is doing what in this sig. Hank is trying to get us to tell him what he should do to make his authered software "compatable" with tapr standards, whatever they may be...hi

But this week we did make progress. TAPR is now endorsing NOAM over NA like Tom W3IWI desires. Tom Clark does do a lot of HF forwarding to europe and if he see's a need for NOAM I will not stand in the way. But isn't this a rather small accomplishment for so long and so many words?

I run the f6fbb software and have saved 6 months of packet radio bulletins that were addressed to xxxxxx@fbb* and have 1/2 meg of written stuff. Most is not useful for the goals of this sig but a few do seem to have good ideas. My question is: would anyone be interested in this stuff? Is it worth my trouble to edit and zmodem to my internet computer and then make into messages like this one?

-karl k5di

103. Re: Progress!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 31 Aug 94 11:17:38 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9408311117.ZM29478@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Aug 31, 1:08pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Progress!
> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: Progress!

> To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 > Date: Wed, 31 Aug 1994 11:51:52 -0600 (MDT)
 >
 >
 > This tapr sig was started in Feburary 1994 at the tapr meeting in
 > tucson. I have heard TONS of words on this sig. I have been asked to do
 > things for the sig and volunteered to do some work. I have heard NOTHING
 > from the moderator so assume what I was going to do is not important. I
 > saw a request for more "help wanted" in a message this week. I have
 > decided not to volunteer again. It doesn't seem to work.
 >
 > I suggest Mr. Wolf needs to get a secretary to send out
 > information we engineers call FEEDBACK. I for one would like to know who
 > is doing what in this sig. Hank is trying to get us to tell him what he
 > should do to make his authered software "comptable" with tapr standards,
 > whatever they may be...hi
 >
 > But this week we did make progress. TAPR is now endorsing NOAM
 > over NA like Tom W3IWI desires. Tom Clark does do a lot of HF forwarding
 > to europe and if he see's a need for NOAM I will not stand in the way.
 > But isn't this a rather small accomplishment for so long and so many
 > words?
 >
 > I run the f6fbb software and have saved 6 months of packet radio
 > bulletins that were addressed to xxxxxx@fbb* and have 1/2 meg of written
 > stuff. Most is not useful for the goals of this sig but a few do seem to
 > have good ideas. My question is: would anyone be interested in this
 > stuff? Is it worth my trouble to edit and zmodem to my internet computer
 > and then make into messages like this one?
 >
 > -karl k5di

I would like to second all of Karl's comments.

Can TAPR provide an archive location for the material Karl has?

My opinion is that both of the TAPR sigs have produced interesting
 and productive discussion, excellent educational material, and not
 yet any clear calls to action.

The bbs_authors sig that was hosted at N0ARY appears to have finished
 it's usefullness. In the main there is little traffic from the authors,
 and questions to that sig do not yield responses.

Would it be possible for TAPR to host an authors sig?
 This sig would need an editor who would take care of merging changes
 and additions into the official version of the spec, and would take
 care of distribution and dissemination of that spec.

(No, I can't volunteer, at least at this time)

The bbs spec that came out of the previous effort is very useful,
 but is not complete nor correct. Creating such a spec is a huge
 hunk of work, and my sense is that most of us kind of burned out
 before we really done. Continuing the work, in my opinion,
 would be very valuable to the digital networking community.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

104. Re: Progress!

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
 Date: Wed, 31 Aug 1994 16:19:40 -0400 (EDT)
 To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9408311620.A3020-0100000@dec>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 31 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
 > Subject: Progress!
 > But this week we did make progress. TAPR is now endorsing NOAM

> over NA like Tom W3IWI desires. Tom Clark does do a lot of HF forwarding
> to europe and if he see's a need for NOAM I will not stand in the way.
> But isn't this a rather small accomplishment for so long and so many
> words?

Yes. IT is. We should pick a standard, publish the standard to everyone else, and ask the bbs software writers to add in their next release a routine to convert anything with the old standard to the new standard.

> I run the f6fbb software and have saved 6 months of packet radio
> bulletins that were addressed to xxxxxx@fbb* and have 1/2 meg of written
> stuff. Most is not useful for the goals of this sig but a few do seem to
> have good ideas. My question is: would anyone be interested in this
> stuff? Is it worth my trouble to edit and zmodem to my internet computer
> and then make into messages like this one?
>
> -karl k5di

Well Karl, I don't run F6FBB, but if there is information for the good of all BBS sysops, then hey, post it.

Also, if there is anyone else who runs f6fbb, and wants it, post it all. I think that information that could help one would be useful, even if it's just for one person out of many...

I've been tinkering with some things at my Packet bbs. One thing I changed is NA to NOAM. Another thing is to setup G8BPQ... Finally got that to work ok... Stupid me didn't read the docs first and messed up my config...

Have fun...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlb@dec.bloomu.edu           * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****
* Packet   :  n3jix@k9iu.#sin.in.usa.na Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *
*****
```

105. Re: Progress!

From: stewart@kepler.IFA.Hawaii.Edu (Christopher Stewart)
Date: Wed, 31 Aug 94 13:49:21 HST
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9408312349.AA00347@kepler.ifa.hawaii.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I would be interested in the f6fbb info that k5di has. Chris/ah6gg.

106. FTP Site

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Wed, 31 Aug 1994 19:11:14 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199409010011.TAA28622@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

We have several places to locate things.

I would suggest these files be located with the BBSSIG materials at TCET.UNT.EDU. Sometime next month we will be moving these list and listserv and ftp access to a permanent internet site all at one place that has full Internet access. A new home for TAPR.ORG that is not dial-up.

Karl, just ftp the files to anonymous ftp @ tcet.unt.edu place in the UPLOAD area and then let me know what files they are and I will move them to where they are suppose to be.

As to the volunteer requests. Karl - did you ask Dave (or tell him) more than one time. Like everyone, Dave is as busy as we all are. Plus to top things off (which I hope Dave does not get upset at me for saying this in public) he has not been feeling 100% and the docs are still looking for the cause. Being sick really does slow done the willingnes to get others active.

Sometime calls to help can be misplaced. Also, if you have something in mind, start to work on it and then let someone know what you are doing. You don't have to get approval to do things ahead of time. An example is Barry on this list. Barry has some fine ideas, ran them by Dave and he is off working on a bunch of user/sysop educational materials. That is all it takes. An idea, time, and effort.

I could use some help right now with something I am working on. I need a list(elec form) of all the 4 letter contient codes, 3 letter regional, and all the combinations of 2 letter states and 3 letter other things. As was requested by international BBS sysops, the spec should will be changed to x.3.4 where x is defined by the national agency. So in the US it will be state codes, in the England something else, etc. Plus does anyone have allt he ISO listings and ZIPs that are used for routing.

Cheers - Greg

107. Author Conf

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Wed, 31 Aug 1994 19:13:08 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199409010013.TAA28672@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Guys - just let me know what you want created andwhy and it is as easy as 1,2,3,4,5,...and a few extra numbers to get up and running.

I always saw the purpose of the bbssig it self to open comments and discussion. I never figured to get anything done by the entiure group, but to form necessary sub-groups to work on tasks that later get reviewed for final adoption or whatever.

I saw the doc Hank refers to and felt that was a great direction to be going in.

Greg

September 1994

Original source file: bbssig.9409

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9409

1. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 09:00:34 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <aa8b476b000150029311@163.127.10.21>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 3:24 AM 31/8/94, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:

> And I agree on the NA issue as Karl said, a non-problem. messages
> with NA are already being passed from BBS to BBS via internet.

Sure, they are being passed through "tunnels" on the Internet but they cause problems when then actually get passed TO the Internet, or when some novice sends an Internet message with the wrong address.

Because the PBBS system uses an addressing method which, at a passing glance, can easily be mistaken for an Internet address it's just being a good neighbour to make sure the name space doesn't overlap. Changing to 4 letter continent codes will do that.

Carl.

--

Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

2. Petition

From: iltmh@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org.
Date: Thu, 01 Sep 94 00:18:56 utc
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <17542@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org.>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> >From: Barry <SYS_BJB%OXFORD@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com>
> Subject: Petition - Additional Clarification
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Tue, 16 Aug 1994 12:03:54 -0500 (CDT)
>
>
>
> First of all, thanks to all who replied. All the comments I received
> were applicable to the topic. Let me clarify my position with another
> example or two.
> For purposes of this discussion, let me use the term "packet" to as being
> representative of all digital modes.
>
>
> FCC Authorized 1 way and 2 way Communications
>
>
> There is some confusion over what is currently authorized. I want to
> point out that I do not believe that unconnected packets are "broadcasting"
> in the traditional sense. That is, transmission of packets, connected
> or unconnected, are not meant for the general public. This general public
> issue needs to be brought into the discussion in order to cover all the
> bases.
>
> Part 97 FACTS
>
> Everyone should really take out Part 97 and read what is authorized.
> (97.111) Also note that 97.3(a)(23) defines Information Bulletin. A
> text file is available from the ARRL server. Note that it is a 1992 copy!
> I'll not repeat the rules here but, if you do intend to participate in
> this discussion, you should _KNOW_ the facts.
>
> The following is a set of scenarios which reflect what is currently authorized
> in Part 97 and what I propose to change. In order to make the discussion
> more realistic, I will use a topic which will enhance the example.

>
>
> 1. Current HF
>
> While these conditions apply to all frequencies, consider that these events
> are occurring on 20 meters phone.
>
> 1.1 2 Way
>
> It is entirely legal for two stations to debate abortion.
>
> 1.2 1 Way
> It is NOT legal for a station to transmit a message or bulletin advocating
> or opposing abortion. 97.111(b)(6) and 97.3(a)(23).
>
>
> 2. Current Packet
>
> Consider that these scenarios are on 2 meter packet.
>
> 2.1 2 Way
>
> 2.1.1 2 Stations connected with real liver operators on each station.
>
> It is legal for two stations to debate abortion; connected or unconnected.
> Since a network usually involves a 2 way connected path, the exchange
> may be conducted via a network.
>
> 2.1.2 User to a BBS - Personal Mail
>
> A station MAY send a connected _msg_ to a network advocating or opposing
> abortion.
>
> 2.1.3 User to a BBS - Bulletin
>
> A station MAY send a connected _BULLETIN_ to a network advocating or opposing
> abortion.
>
> Note: there is no distinction made in the regulations between 2.1.2 and
> 2.1.3.
>
> 2.2 1 Way
>
> A station MAY NOT send an unconnected packet containing a msg/bltn on
> abortion. This is exactly the same situation described in 1.2 above.
> A "network" based on unconnected packets could NOT legally accept this
> bltn and process it.
>
>
> Discussion
>
> So a bltn "SB ABORT @ ALLUSA" is entirely legal because it is a 2 way
> transmission.
>
> This is the crux of the matter. Simply stated, I believe that a bulletin
> transmitted on packet (networks) should fall under the same restrictions
> which are currently imposed on 20 meter phone. This position requires
> no justification. There is no technical debate on the merits of one scheme
> or another. It is purely a matter of choice.
>
> The FCC has a policy on bulletins. I do not propose any change to existing
> policy. However, that policy is being circumvented by a technological
> characteristic which was not foreseen at the time of the rules were written.
> Exactly the same situation as HF unattended operation.
>
>
>
> 3. Proposed HF
>
> None.
>
>
> 4. Proposed Packet
>
> Policy: stations operating in a network shall conform to the same rules
> as stations which are not part of a network. Only information bulletins
> may introduced into a network.
>
>
>

> Discussion
>
> If you can't live with the existing policy, then you are entirely welcome
> to try and change it. I am only addressing an issue of applicability.
>
>
> My task is to propose the wording which would implement this position
> in Part 97.
>
> My sincere thanks to those who have responded and I'll continue to be
> available to discuss this issue.
>
>
> Barry Buelow WA0RJT
>
>
>
>
>
> Barry Buelow WA0RJT
> Packet: WA0RJT.IA.USA Cedar Rapids, IA
> CI\$: 71664,227
> Internet: "sys_bjb%afds@hobbes.cca.rockwell.com"
>
>
>
>What Barry seems to be advocating, is for the FCC to say "we said no
broadcasting and we mean it!!"

>>Is this correct, Barry?

>>If so, I ask, "why invite trouble?"

>>I am not aware of stations creating any problems by sending UI frames on
>>any band. For those handful who beacon "Jesus Loves You" "Impeach
>>Clinton and Her Husband, Too" etc., the way to discourage them is much
>>more effective than another restriction. Just shun them. Our resident
>>evangelist has found motorcycles more fascinating than saving lost
>>digital souls. If we had engaged him, he'd probably be on 20m with a KW
>>trying to save the world by now.

>>If it becomes a problem, then I'd worry about it.

>>We would be better served if we presented technical proposals to the
>>FCC, such as ones to maximize efficient use of the bands we have.
>>Dave W05H

Barry and Dave,
I am surprised by your discussion on what is allowed or not in
Amateur Bands.
This is normal in Italy, if you know how we Italians are
considered in your yokes, but I considered you overcome the
problem to distinguish Freedom from Confusion.
A rule that I read in the FCC Book says that " Amateur Radio
Service must not be in competition with any other Service".
Art 21 of the Italian Constitution, but I suppose that a similar
article is reported in any State Constitution, says that every
Citizen can diffuse their ideas with any way (included Radio of
course)
Another article of the Italian Constitution says that Technique
and their research are free and need to be encouraged.

Now, to allow people to "use" Radio for all their purpose, has
been instituted CB for amusement, Broadcasting for any diffusion
of ideas and private links for personal business.
To help research in radio technique, has been instituted the
"Amateur Radio Service".
I hope you know the ITU definition of Amateur Radio, but a
reminder can be useful :
Amateur Radio, a person that "works" in Radio not professional,
interested in "radioelettricity" for his self learning with no
purpose of lucre.
The purpose of Amateur Radio is intercommunication between duly
authorized persons and their activity consists of messages
regarding "technical experiments" and personal (not of general
interest !) remarks that cannot justify the usage of public means
of communication.
In the Decalogue of the Amateur Radio you read: " Amateur Radio
is self regulated " !

Did Amateur Radio disappear from our bands ?

Now, a lot of Aliens, pushed by IARU societies, for lucre and for ignorance of their leaders, invaded our bands claiming for freedom to compete with all other service.

We Amateur Radio, considering that a lot of Work remain to resolve in the radiofrequency field, we do not want those Aliens that disturb our frequencies and we ask our government to send them in CB, in Broadcasting or to apply a fee in the commercial bands.

I enclose a letter that I send to FCC some time ago, but I think that FCC still believe in our self regulation and in the moral standards of IARU !

73 Sergio, I1TMH @ I1TMH

3. >> FCC

From: i1tmh@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org.
Date: Thu, 01 Sep 94 00:22:21 utc
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <17544@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org.>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Grugliasco Aug. 30 1991.

To: All Amateur Radio.

To: Federal Communication Commission.

I sent through BBS's and by mail to Amateur Radio Associations, several Bulletins with my opinion on the bad "use" of our "several billion dollars spectrum " made by Aliens that invaded it for lucre and amusement, but the average individual in possession of an "Amateur Radio" permit seems not to be interested in rules or moral auto-regulations, mixing up freedom with confusion.

The various IARU societies in the world, with a few exception, are only interested to make happy the japanese poor quality consumer set importers, maintaining Amateur Radio as much as they can in the dark about rules, rights and technological progress in Radio Communication.

As one can suppose, the reaction of National Governments is to reduce Amateur bands (Italy above 30 MHz granted only 30 %) or to ask ITU for assigning them to Services more useful and more profitable for the community.

I red recently in a telephone BBS in USA that ARRL is asking Amateur Radio for not consulting FCC on any regulations, but to do and wait for complaint, until now a typical Italian custom.

Here everything is forbidden and everything is admitted, without anybody taking care to command respect for existing rules and without any protection for the weak, honest Amateur Radio (and/or Citizen).

Being USA nowadays considered the driver country in the World, I consider FCC the most suitable board for establishing what an Amateur Radio is and what he must do.

If it is true that an Amateur Radio is a person interested in the technology of Radio, for self training and scientific research, without any lucre purpose, and if it is true that, as FCC said and the technical Director of Italian Communication Ministry confirmed, Amateur Radio "must" not be in competition with any other Service, the few of us that follow these basic definitions, "must be protected" in any way from "Aliens" intrusion.

73 Sergio Centroni, I1TMH @ I1TMH.

4. Re: Hierarchical Addresses

From: i1tmh@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org.
Date: Thu, 01 Sep 94 00:25:11 utc
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <17546@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org.>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Grugliasco, Aug. 31 1994

Re: Hierarchical Addressing

To: ALL

>From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)

Subject: Re: Hierarchical Addresses

To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>

Date: Mon, 29 Aug 1994 14:17:28 +1000

At 8:56 PM 28/8/94 -0500, Andrea Borgnino wrote:

> So I kindly ask the BBS software makers to do not copy any
> competitive way to handle mail, but to modify any distribution
> method, hierarchical or not, making it able to HANDLE CALL
> LETTERS, at least helped by the WW Locator !
> Which BBS software does arrive first ? Sure I'll replace it in
> my BBS system !

Call signs are totally useless for addressing mail. They give absolutely no indication of where the station is.

Using call prefixes in the address is only slightly better as this would require (basically) the entire DXCC list at EVERY BBS!

The WW locator is also of little use in addressing mail. There are 3 BBSs in Canberra that cover pretty much the same area but on different frequencies and huge gobs of space around that is covered by NO bbs. Addressing based on WW locator would need to contain other information as well to identify the specific BBS and would end up little different to the current PBBS addressing method.

The PBBS system has developed it's own addressing method which is NOT derived from "commercial" systems. That addressing method has problems and is not perfect but it is workable.

There is also no reason to not copy a "commercial" system if it works, is readily adaptable and is free of copyright or patent problems.

The Amateur Service isn't some private club. We shouldn't be developing tools, software and procedures that are totally incompatible with the rest of the world just for the sake of making it "uniquely Amateur". This is stupid and we'll just end up talking to nobody.

Carl.

--

Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

Dear Carl,

What a poor and diverted answer !

You could be right if we "Amateur Radio" would be some users of a network made from commercial companies for amusement or private business !

This could be right for CB, they have the right to "communicate" for amusement and for diffusion of ideas !

No technical difficulty must disturb them, they cannot even modify or understand their Radio, the only tasks in which we must be involved. A computer for the radio path is more disturbing than a code key, because it's out is a signal that requires much more bandwidth and power to "make a contact", also if in the time it handles more information.

As a matter of fact in Italy the CB digital network is much more powerful than our one.

Dear Carl, our call is the only non equivocal mean of identification that we have and, by the way, is what our morals and our regulations oblige to use in contacts between Amateur Radio.

You do not need the entire Callbook, you think to send a mail for my BBS in I*, or in JN35; in Italy sure everybody knows where I am: In Italy we are favorite because the figure in the call indicates the region in which we are.

The WW locator, is the first mean that come to my mind, the only one "invented" by Amateur Radio.

Dear Carl, it could be also more difficult to use, but if we forget what is between the two stations, we use telephone to supply our inability to handle radiofrequency, and even if we need to copy a way of routing based on commercial experience, we cannot be proud of our activity, we are only CB that can waste more spectrum for our amusement !

What a foolish job the first Italian Amateur Radio, Guglielmo Marconi did ! He "invented" Radio, not considering that he had wire, more reliable and that now Amateur Radio are resuming for

their amusement !

73 Sergio, I1TMH @ I1TMH

5. Re: Hierarchical Addresses Re: Hierarchical Addresses

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 15:32:34 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <aa8b97c300015002e720@[163.127.10.21]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 2:24 AM 1/9/94, i1tmh@ik1qlid-10.ampr.org wrote:

>> Call signs are totally useless for addressing mail. They give absolutely
>> no indication of where the station is.

> Dear Carl, our call is the only non equivocal mean of
> identification that we have and, by the way, is what our morals
> and our regulations oblige to use in contacts between Amateur
> Radio.

Callsigns are currently used by all PBBS systems in operation. My system address contains my callsign (both the Packet Radio and Internet addresses). It's just that routing messages based on the callsign alone is not possible in many countries in the world. The Amateur PBBS authors came up with an addressing scheme that says not only who you are, but also where you are. It's not a commercial system, nor is it perfect but it works.

> You do not need the entire Callbook, you think to send a mail
> for my BBS in I*, or in JN35; in Italy sure everybody knows where
> I am: In Italy we are favorite because the figure in the call
> indicates the region in which we are.

Great. Italy (and Australia) can do that. It's not possible in the US for example as their call letters mean bugger all as to where the station is.

> The WW locator, is the first mean that come to my mind, the only
> one "invented" by Amateur Radio.

The current Amateur PBBS addressing scheme was "invented" by Amateur Radio as well. However I don't believe that we must invent everything ourselves. The Amateur service is already well behind in most areas of research and if we can advance the state of the art, partly by adopting existing technologies then we can only benefit.

> supply our inability to handle radiofrequency, and even if we
> need to copy a way of routing based on commercial experience, we
> cannot be proud of our activity, we are only CB that can waste
> more spectrum for our amusement !

So we shut our eyes to all progress outside the Amateur community and stagnate. The Amateur Service stops getting new blood and shortly we lose all bands and privileges. That's what will happen if we try to isolate ourselves away from the rest of the world.

The Amateur Service is a great training ground for many things, not just radio communications. If we confine ourselves to only using techniques and technology developed directly by the Amateur Service then the Amateur Service will become increasingly irrelevant as the world moves on and we sit contemplating our navels.

If that's the case then I'll go and join the CB'ers. At least they seem to be doing something.

Carl.

--

Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

6. Re: FTP Site

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 07:55:22 -0600 (MDT)

To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409010708.A13963-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 31 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
> Subject: FTP Site
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu (BBSIG mailing)
> Date: Wed, 31 Aug 1994 19:11:14 -0500 (CDT)
>
> We have several places to locate things.
>
> I would suggest these files be located with the BBSSIG materials at
> TCET.UNT.EDU. Sometime next month we will be moving these list and listserv
> and ftp access to a permanent internet site all at one place that has full
> Internet access. A new home for TAPR.ORG that is not dial-up.
>
> Karl, just ftp the files to anonymous ftp @ tcet.unt.edu place in the UPLOAD
> area and then let me know what files they are and I will move them to where
> they are suppose to be.

Will do and soon. I will make a test run with my jnos 1.10g that
is daisy.arl.mil and make sure it works....hi

>
> As to the volunteer requests. Karl - did you ask Dave (or tell him) more
> than one time. Like everyone, Dave is as busy as we all are. Plus to top
> things off (which I hope Dave does not get upset at me for saying this in
> public) he has not been feeling 100% and the docs are still looking for the
> cause. Being sick really does slow down the willingness to get others
> active.

I am sorry if Dave is ill. That is a bummer and sorry to hear
that. With this the case perhaps Dave needs a volunteer helper with the
day to day stuff.

> I could use some help right now with something I am working on. I need a
> list(elec form) of all the 4 letter continent codes, 3 letter regional, and
> all the combinations of 2 letter states and 3 letter other things. As was
> requested by international BBS sysops, the spec should will be changed to
> x.3.4 where x is defined by the national agency. So in the US it will be
> state codes, in the England something else, etc. Plus does anyone have all
> the ISO listings and ZIPs that are used for routing.
>
> Cheers - Greg

Greg I have a BIG file I get from Remi Houtin f6cnb daily for my
bbs. There have been a ton of @WW messages that went through 20 bbs to
reach me. It is a flat ascii file and I will upload it as codes.zip to
tcet.unt.edu. My suggestion is to use List.com to read the file and cut
out the parts you need. Another source is my white pages file but it
isn't a flat file. It looks like it is machine read, which it is...hi

73, karl

7. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 10:54:01 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9409011001.A21395-0100000@gauss>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 31 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 09:00:34 +1000
>
> At 3:24 AM 31/8/94, <bbs_sig@tcet.unt.edu> wrote:
>
> > And I agree on the NA issue as Karl said, a non-problem. messages
> > with NA are already being passed from BBS to BBS via internet.
>
> Sure, they are being passed through "tunnels" on the Internet but they
> cause problems when then actually get passed TO the Internet, or when some
> novice sends an Internet message with the wrong address.

I have heard a lot about this NOAM vs NA, but even after requests to understand why there is a problem on the Internet, I have not read any reasons.

Please pardon my ignorance here, but as a gateway sysop, I would like to know when a PBBS message should just be 'dumped' onto the Internet. It seems to me that passing packet mail through 'tunnels' is really all that is needed.

If someone dumps PBBS mail onto the Internet expecting delivery to the Amateur address, I see that it can only be due to carelessness.

I hope someone can clear this mess up for me. Sometimes it just seems like a lot of wind blowing :-)

73
Tim

```
-----
Tim Baggett, AA5DF          | Countdown to Graduation: 107 days & counting
Las Cruces, New Mexico    | "Ya want fries wid dat hamburger?"
                             |
New Mexico State University | "If you can't run with the big dogs,
Electrical Engineering Student | then stay on the porch"
-----
```

8. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 12:43:41 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409011222.C18175-0100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Sep 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```
> From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
>      ^^^
>      Coming up in the world I see Tim...hi
>
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 10:54:01 -0600 (MDT)
```

Lots deleted

```
>
> > If someone dumps PBBS mail onto the Internet expecting delivery to the
> > Amateur address, I see that it can only be due to carelessness.
>
> > I hope someone can clear this mess up for me. Sometimes it just seems
> > like a lot of wind blowing :-)
>
> > 73
> > Tim
```

You are very perceptive Tim. I have wondered why the ham radio bbs and the internet smtp should ever meet. But that IS the BURNING issue that keeps this thing alive.

-karl k5di

(klarsen@arl.mil is not too long either...wonder if there is a karl@arl.mil?)

9. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 94 13:17:01 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9409011317.ZM5049@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sep 1, 1:29pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

```
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 10:54:01 -0600 (MDT)
```

```
>
> On Wed, 31 Aug 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
```



```
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****
* Packet : n3jix@k9iu.#sin.in.usa.na Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *
*****
```

11. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 10:37:00 +1000
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <aa8ca64d030150025936@[163.127.10.21]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 6:30 PM 1/9/94, Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu> wrote:

> Please pardon my ignorance here, but as a gateway sysop, I would like to
> know when a PBBS message should just be 'dumped' onto the Internet. It
> seems to me that passing packet mail through 'tunnels' is really all that
> is needed.

PBBS mail should never be just "dumped" onto the Internet however the superficial resemblance of PBBS addresses to Internet addresses makes it probable that some people will make mistakes and use the wrong address. Misconfigured gateways can also cause problems.

It wouldn't be to big a problem except that the .NA continent code clashed with Namibia(sp?) on the Internet and they began to get lots of messages. As they pay for the line it started costing them real amounts of money.

> If someone dumps PBBS mail onto the Internet expecting delivery to the
> Amateur address, I see that it can only be due to carelessness.

It's not a hard mistake to make, especially if the person sending the message is not Amateur PBBS literate.

High level domains on the Internet are always 2 or 3 letters. Moving to NOAM and 4 letter continent designators will make sure the name spaces do not overlap and minimise the problem.

Carl.

--
Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

12. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson N8FOW)
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 20:59:19 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9409020059.AA00898@chaos.NIS.chaos>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> The problem is not in the "BBS network", nor is it at any gateway.
>
> The problem is hams on the internet sending messages (in the internet)
> addressed ".....NA" ... these route to Namibia, as would be expected.

I havn't sent any messages on the internet to any AX.25 BBS's using the NA designator, but what I've seen many many times are hams on packet that send messages and it it either sent from a NOS system or through a NOS or Unix system over packet that does not support AX.25 BBS forwarding and doesn't contain the rewrite info for .na to stay on the amateur network. My own system is guilty of this, and I will not change it either since I support internet domain addressing and .na is Namibia. The only way I could even think of supporting this is if I had a listing of every subdomain of the .na that is used on packet and have a seperate rewrite for each one. Then I can direct that mail to someone that does AX.25 BBS forwarding. Of course the easy way to do things is to just switch to .noam and then *poof*, problem gone. One line in a rewrite problem solves it all.

The problem discussed definitely is a problem that occurs over packet and is not limited to internet users sending messages. Come to Detroit and you'll see it in action over packet getting forwarded to Namibia.

--

Ron N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@n8fow.ampr.org
Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
aa011@detroit.freenet.org

#include <std_disclaimer.h>
/* all views and opinions expressed above are my own. */

13. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 19:04:09 -0600 (MDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.87.9409011909.D25542-0100000@gauss>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Sep 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
> Date: Thu, 1 Sep 94 13:17:01 PDT
>
> The problem is not in the "BBS network", nor is it at any gateway.
>
> The problem is hams on the internet sending messages (in the internet)
> addressed ".....NA" ... these route to Namibia, as would be expected.

That is what I was pointing out. Why should anyone on the Internet be typing PBBS addresses expecting the Internet to send the mail to a packet BBS and NOT to Namibia? The same goes for the hams on the packet radio network expecting FBB to correctly understand sending message to tim@nmsu.edu (which has been in use for quite some time now :-)

Ron sent me a very good message explainig what the problem is. It does appear that it is uneducated users, or morons, or whatever their incentive may be, to incorrectly address a message on the wrong network.

Hmmm, how about if I throw out just a simple idea:
Since the gateways must be the only place these PBBS messages must be getting INTO the Internet, then how about all the gateways adding in a rewrite file such as:

```
*.na sysop  
*.noam sysop
```

That should then cause any message being sent from the gateway (which is SMTP only) ending in this .na or .noam to be readressed to the sysop. This way the message is actually sent to the administrator who can then correct the user (or whatever) and prevent the message from bombing Namibia.

It's just a thought, but maybe it will help squash the problem. Whatcha think?

As for the hams on the Internet trying to send email to aa5df@w0rli.or.na, well then they're idiots and need to use their TNC or find a real Internet address.

As for BBS's on 145.97 connecting to gateway.ampr.org, it would be nuts for them just to dump a PBBS addressed message to the gateway. From the sound of things, this is not what is happening.

But, then are there *really* that many users ignorant in the Internet and packet radio that don't use the right address? Or are there BBS's that are doing as I just mentioned?

I'm not pro NA or NOAM. That is for the primary users of this group to decide IMHO. As a gateway sysop, I just want to know why this mess is happening in the first place.

I look forward to more enlightenment on this subject... :-)

73
Tim

Tim Baggett, AA5DF	Countdown to Graduation: 107 days & counting
Las Cruces, New Mexico	"Ya want fries wid dat hamburger?"
New Mexico State University	"If you can't run with the big dogs,
Electrical Engineering Student	then stay on the porch"

14. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 20:24:39 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9409012024.aa00249@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> The problem is not in the "BBS network", nor is it at any gateway.
>
> The problem is hams on the internet sending messages (in the internet)
> addressed ".....NA" ... these route to Namibia, as would be expected.
>
So we are bringing this up on BBS forwarding because a couple of
internet users can't read the manual or remember which world
they're hooked up to?? We need to carefully consider what is driving
the change. If this is the real reason - there is a problem with the
decision process to get everyone that correctly uses NA on the BBS
system to change.
--
73
=====
Robert Wood
WB5CRG
w5robert@blkbox.com (blkbox is NOT blackbox, inc!.)
w5robert@blkbox.com@menudo.uh.edu
=====

15. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Thu, 01 Sep 1994 18:01:29 -0400
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <199409020126.AA17768@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 07:45 PM 9/1/94 CDT, hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson) wrote:

>> On Wed, 31 Aug 1994, Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu> wrote:
>
>> I have heard a lot about this NOAM vs NA, but even after requests to
>> understand why there is a problem on the Internet, I have not read any
>> reasons.
>>
>> Please pardon my ignorance here, but as a gateway sysop, I would like to
>> know when a PBBS message should just be 'dumped' onto the Internet. It
>> seems to me that passing packet mail through 'tunnels' is really all that
>> is needed.
>
>The problem is not in the "BBS network", nor is it at any gateway.
>
>The problem is hams on the internet sending messages (in the internet)
>addressed ".....NA" ... these route to Namibia, as would be expected.
>

There are also the ambiguities on the Amateur side which Tom, W3IWI,
detailed in his paper. Anyone who hasn't read this paper really should
before commenting upon this issue. Tom's arguments are rational and, in my
opinion, compelling.

The basic point he makes is that 4-character codes allow more reasonable
"gross" scale routing.

Tom pointed out that we can handle things based upon just the country code,
or with a useful continent-ish element as well as the country, but the
2-character continent codes do not provide useful information.

The Internet issue is just an additional side issue which will be solved by
adoption of the 4-character "continent" codes.

Please read Tom's paper!

73,

-Andy-
--

Andrew Funk, KB7UV
| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |

16. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson N8FOW)
 Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 00:19:02 -0400 (EDT)
 To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
 Message-ID: <9409020419.AA01311@chaos.NIS.chaos>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

> > Please pardon my ignorance here, but as a gateway sysop, I would like to
 > > know when a PBBS message should just be 'dumped' onto the Internet. It
 > > seems to me that passing packet mail through 'tunnels' is really all that
 > > is needed.
 >
 > PBBS mail should never be just "dumped" onto the Internet however the
 > superficial resemblance of PBBS addresses to Internet addresses makes it
 > probable that some people will make mistakes and use the wrong address.
 > Misconfigured gateways can also cause problems.

Have to explain things again here... Running TCP/IP and being in
 reach or a packet <> internet gateway has caused packet systems to
 essentially become part of the internet. For instance in Detroit the
 local TCP/IP'ers do not rely on the gateway to handle mail for them.
 They can send and receive mail to<>from the internet since they are now
 part of the internet. This is over packet, and yes we are part of the
 internet. Just instead of using wires we're using radios. By saying
 that mail should never be dumped on the Internet is implying that you
 shouldn't dump mail onto any packet system that has any connectivity
 with the internet. This means that my personal home packet system is
 out (Linux and JNOS), all the TCP/IP'ers in SouthEast Michigan are
 out too since they are the Internet. Well you get the point.

Miconfigured gateways??? How??? My gateway deals with internet
 domains for mail, and as everyone knows, including Internet systems,
 like wj8q.ampr.org for instance (who is part of the internet now
 but uses packet for his connection), that .na is Namibia (sp?).
 The gateway only needs to act as a router. Some gateways don't even
 allow users on them and don't handle email at all, but instead the
 users on packet send the mail to<>from wire-based internet connected
 hosts.

The .na problem with packet falls on the AX.25 BBS network conflicting
 with Internet systems, regardless if that internet system is connected
 via ethernet or radio. I really don't see why people just plain can't
 switch to something like NOAM and get it over with. Problem gone,
 discussion over with, no conflicts anymore.... I have yet to hear
 of any reasons as to why we should stick to .na except for someone
 who wants to do it "their way". Just switch, get the word out, if
 someone doesn't want to switch then it's their problem.

In the meantime I know that .na is somewhere in Africa and that's
 where that mail belongs. If a standard is agreed on as to a
 non-conflicting addressing, then let me know what it is and when
 that standard is decided on and I'll add it in to my systems. In
 the meantime I see no real standard and have no way to handle AX.25
 BBS type mail.

And to bring it up again..... it's NOT a gateway problem at all, never
 has been and probably never will be.

--

Ron N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@n8fow.ampr.org
 Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
 aa011@detroit.freenet.org

#include <std_disclaimer.h>
 /* all views and opinions expressed above are my own. */

17. Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
 Date: Thu, 1 Sep 94 21:49:48 PDT
 To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
 Message-ID: <9409020449.AA131932@tcet.unt.edu>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

If anyone wonders why we can't make any progress, just review the last 10 messages or so. We are regurgitating a problem that has been argued over and over again. TAPR now comes out for 3x4 addressing and everybody wants to debate it again. When will we consider this issue closed?!?!?!?!?

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

18. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: Douglas Fajardo <dfajardo@netcom.com>
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 00:25:35 -0700 (PDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409012327.A17890-0100000@netcom4>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Sep 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
>> On Thu, 1 Sep 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> > From: Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu>

(Lots deleted)

> > If someone dumps PBBS mail onto the Internet expecting delivery to the
> > Amateur address, I see that it can only be due to carelessness.
^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

What about deliberate experimentation? :).

> >

> > I hope someone can clear this mess up for me. Sometimes it just seems
> > like a lot of wind blowing :-)

>

> You are very perceptive Tim. I have wondered why the ham radio
^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

> bbs and the internet smtp should ever meet. But that IS the BURNING issue
^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

As can so easily happen, you are viewing the subject from the wrong perspective. It doesn't matter that someone can't think of a reason why the two services SHOULD meet. In fact, there must be some places in the world where this happens - as I recall, that is how the problem was discovered :).

What DOES matter is that there is no reason why the two services SHOULDN'T meet. Please note that while a wide open gateway from internet to amateur packet radio is probably not leagally feasible, a properly controlled or restricted (ie: moderated?) gateway is certainly possible. And traffic flow in the other direction - from Amateur Packet to the Internet - is (to the best of my knowledge) completely legal.

Personally, I think the only reason that this 'argument' (discussion?) has proceeded as long as it has is that there is no one organization which can direct a relatively simple change which is needed.

**** Doug Fajardo
WB6KNY
dfajardo@netcom.com

19. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@dec.bloomu.edu>
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 08:42:20 -0400 (EDT)
To: TAPR BBS Special Interest Group <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409020854.A22625-0100000@dec>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 2 Sep 1994, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:

> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> over and over again. TAPR now comes out for 3x4 addressing and
> everybody wants to debate it again. When will we consider this issue
> closed?!?!?!?!?

I have considered it closed.

I don't know why people are still debating a old issue... Must be a boring week... {Hi Hi}

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlb@dec.bloomu.edu      * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.na *****
* Packet   :  n3jix@k9iu.#sin.in.usa.na Or n3jix@k9iu.ampr.org *
*****
```

20. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 94 11:24:51 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9409021124.ZM9749@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sep 1, 10:29pm, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> From: Robert Wood <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
> Subject: Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Thu, 1 Sep 1994 20:24:39 -0500 (CDT)
>
> > The problem is not in the "BBS network", nor is it at any gateway.
> >
> > The problem is hams on the internet sending messages (in the internet)
> > addressed "...NA" ... these route to Namibia, as would be expected.
> >
> So we are bringing this up on BBS forwarding because a couple of
> internet users can't read the manual or remember which world
> they're hooked up to?? We need to carefully consider what is driving
> the change. If this is the real reason - there is a problem with the
> decision process to get everyone that correctly uses NA on the BBS
> system to change.

It was brought up by a number of folks who administer internet gateways and address servers. They asked if it would be possible for "us" to use something other than .NA. We responded that we were in the process of changing to .NOAM anyway, so the problem would go away. That was all that happened. It happend a long time ago, when the country of Namibia came into existance and was assigned .na.

So once we change to .NOAM, this problem will not exist.

i.e. "It's a done deal, let's get back to arguing about code/nocode."

Oh .. sorry .. wrong newsgroup ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

21. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 94 11:28:44 PDT
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <9409021128.ZM9754@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sep 2, 12:59am, TAPR BBS Special Interest Group wrote:
> Subject: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
> Subject: Hierarchical addressing protocol
> To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
> Date: Thu, 1 Sep 94 21:49:48 PDT
>
> If anyone wonders why we can't make any progress, just review the last
> 10 messages or so. We are regurgitating a problem that has been argued
> over and over again. TAPR now comes out for 3x4 addressing and
> everybody wants to debate it again. When will we consider this issue
> closed?!?!?!?
>
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>
>-- End of excerpt from TAPR BBS Special Interest Group

Roy (and everyone else),

I for one consider it closed. Years ago. So it's NOAM. Done.

Hey Roy, want to release code that enforces the "TAPR list of continental sized location designators"? I'm prepared to do this at any time.

Mike? Jean-Paul? Brian? Etc.? How about the rest of "us authors"?

Let's get back to "Is there such a thing as an open repeater?"

Oh darn, wrong newsgroup again ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

22. PSR Deadline Issue #56

From: root (The Super-user)
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 94 17:49:54 CDT
To: bbssig, netsig
Message-ID: <9409022249.AA162751@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From gjones@tenet.edu Fri Sep 2 17:40:06 1994
>From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Message-Id: <199409022239.RAA28865@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Subject: PSR Deadline Issue #56
To: tapr-bb@tcet.unt.edu (TAPR-BB mailing)
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 17:39:54 -0500 (CDT)
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL23]
Content-Type: text
Content-Length: 920

Deadline for the next issue of the TAPR PSR will be September 15th, 1994.

Please direct any articles or information to psr@tapr.org or
bobh@tcet.unt.edu.

TAPR is looking for any technical articles you might have on current or ongoing projects. In addition, the focus of the next issues will be BBS issues, so if you have something for that, please submit it.

Also, TAPR still has an open invitation to any Regional Packet Group that wishes to submit information regarding regional activity.

Cheers - Greg

President -- Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Corp

TAPR Office (817) 383-0000 | Internet: gjones@tenet.edu

23. Re: Hierarchical addressing protocol

From: "Andrew Kukla" <ve3mrm@ve3mrm.ampr.org>
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 94 14:41:16 EST
To: "TAPR BBS Special Interest Group" <bbssig@tcet.unt.edu>
Message-ID: <245.ve3mrm@ve3mrm.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Sep 1994, Re Hierarchical addressing protocol,
Tim Baggett <tim@NMSU.edu> wrote:

> Ron sent me a very good message explaining what the problem is. It does
> appear that it is uneducated users, or morons, or whatever their
> incentive may be, to incorrectly address a message on the wrong network.

```
> As for the hams on the Internet trying to send email to
> aa5df@w0rli.or.na, well then they're idiots and need to use their TNC or
> find a real Internet address.

> As for BBS's on 145.97 connecting to gateway.ampr.org, it would be nuts
> for them just to dump a PBBS addressed message to the gateway. From the
> sound of things, this is not what is happening.

> But, then are there *really* that many users ignorant in the Internet and
> packet radio that don't use the right address? Or are there BBS's that
> are doing as I just mentioned?

> I'm not pro NA or NOAM. That is for the primary users of this group to
> decide IMHO. As a gateway sysop, I just want to know why this mess is
> happening in the first place.

> I look forward to more enlightenment on this subject... :-)
```

I work for Postal Services and see a lot of letters. There is high percentage of letters wrongly addressed and often, due to it, undeliverable. We do not call senders "idiots" or "morons"; we are trying to decipher the addresses and deliver the letters to their intended destinations. At the same time we are trying to educate the public in proper addressing of the letters. But, whatever we do and for whatever reason, we will always have wrong addresses on envelopes.

This is reality of life. We will have wrong addresses and it is up to us to create systems more fool-proof (idiot-proof). If we have several packet systems in existence (ax.25, tcp/ip, etc.) then mixups will always happen. Therefore, NOAM is more sensible approach (as improving the system) than set of rules imposed upon the system's users.

```
=====
AmprNet: ve3mrm%ve3mrm.ampr.org@bbs.ve3rpi.ampr.org      : Andrew Kukla
IP address: 44.135.88.38                                o      : Toronto, Ontario
AX.25 mail: VE3MRM @ VA3BBS.#SCON.ON.CA                (I)      : 73
===== P =====
```

24. IMPORTANT - BBSSIG RELOCATION

```
From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sun, 4 Sep 1994 20:08:30 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu (BBSSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199409050108.UAA01297@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

```
****
**** IMPORTANT -- PLEASE READ ****
****
```

NETSIG, BBSSIG, and TAPR-BB Relocation

The NETSIG, BBSSIG, and TAPR-BB mail lists will be relocating back to their permanent home on TAPR.ORG.

These lists were moved to TCET.UNT.EDU after a mail problem with our host feed in Tucson during June. The TAPR.ORG system has been moved to a permanent Internet location, which no longer presents this problem. With the creation of the new TAPR.ORG system, we are working on consolidating TAPR information feeds.

In addition, the new listproc software works much more reliably than the current hacked software that was done to maintain the current lists.

These lists (located on TCET) will be phased out on Friday Sept 16th. Messages posted, after Wednesday, Sept 7th, will be forwarded to the new lists located @tapr.org.

Due to a difference between how the current and new list software operate, subscribers will need to subscribe to the relocated lists.

subscribe

```
-----
To subscribe to the relocated mail lists send a message to
`listserv@tapr.org` with the following line(s) in the body of the message:
```

subscribe list full_name

Example:

subscribe bbssig FirstName LastName
subscribe netsig FirstName LastName
subscribe tapr-bb FirstName LastName

Note: The Listproc uses the From: line of the incoming mail subscription to set the return e-mail path. If you have to support something other than what is sent in your From: line, please send mail to wd5ivd@tapr.org and let me know what needs to be supported. If you have more than one mail address you send messages from, you will need to send those to wd5ivd@tapr.org to add those as aliases to your entry.

unsubscribe

There is no need to unsubscribe from the TCET mail lists. This information is for later reference. To unsubscribe later from the mail lists send a message to `listserv@tapr.org` with the following line in the body of the message:

signoff bbssig
signoff netsig
signoff tapr-bb

Archives

Past messages from the mail lists are available in the TAPR.ORG archives. Send mail to `listserv@tapr.org` with the following in the message body:

index tapr/mail_list

Examples:

index tapr/netsig
index

Help

To get help, send mail to `listserv@tapr.org` with `help` in the message body. The new Listproc software does a lot of things that our previous and current software did not support.

If you have any questions or concerns, send mail to wd5ivd@tapr.org

Tucson Amateur Packet Radio

8987-309 E Tanque Verde Rd #337 * Tucson, Az * 85749-9399 * 817-383-0000

25. Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sat, 10 Sep 1994 01:50:57 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199409100650.BAA07576@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Proposed Recommendation for:
Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

Authors:

Dave Wolf, W05H
Greg Jones, WD5IVD
Roy Engehausen, AA4RE
Hank Oredson, W0RLI

Date:

August 30th, 1994

Comment Period on Table Changes:

September 1st, 1994 through January 31st, 1995

Send Comments to:

Dave Wolf, W05H, TAPR BBS SIG Chair
Packet: wo5h@wo5h.#dfw.tx.usa.noam
Internet: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

Introduction

The TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends the adoption of the x.3.4 hierarchical address protocol.

After discussion of previous articles on hierarchical addressing standards (1,2) and taking into account international issues of regional/state name sizes, the TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends the adoption of the x.3.4 standard on an international basis. x is defined as 2, 3, or 4 letter region names as defined by the country.

Examples of x.3.4:

@WA6GVD.CA.USA.NOAM
@EA2CMO.EAZ.ESP.EURO
@F5JGK.FAQI.FRA.EURO

Regional identifiers may be duplicated in different countries (i.e. AK, Alaska, USA, could be used in another country as a regional identifier); however, Country and Continental identifiers SHOULD NOT be used as regional names.

It is important to note that there is a distinct and significant difference between HIERARCHICAL ADDRESSES and FLOOD DESIGNATORS. Hierarchical address elements are common to all messages (bulletins, P and T types) and are the foundation of the digital forwarding system. Flood designators are used for routing and filtering bulletins. Geographical flood designators are likely based upon hierarchical address elements. It is therefore important that any attempt to establish standards concentrate first on hierarchical address elements. Standards for flood designators can follow.

It is the purpose of this document to generate a changing recommendation that reflects current hierarchical routing. Reference Tables at the end will be changed as necessary to reflect current configurations within the international BBS network. These tables will need to be changed and updated in order to meet future needs of user and sysops.

Hierarchical Routing Syntax Summary

This summary uses a modified Backus-Naur form to summarize the syntax for hierarchical addressing. [] = optional

@hierarchial_address
bbs.[#octothorpe.][region.]country.continent

bbs
valid callsign as defined by local communications authority

#octothorpe.
#area.[#octothorpe.]

#area
area as defined by the local region

See Table 4 for list of current area identifiers

region
2,3, or 4 character region identifier as defined by the country.

See Table 3 for list of region identifiers

country
3 character country identifier as defined by ANSI X.12 and EDIFACT.
Published in ISO 3166-1981(E/F).

See Table 2 for country identifiers

continent
4 character continental identifier.

See Table 1 for continental identifiers.

Examples:

F6CNB.#SETX.TX.USA.NOAM
KB7WE.#WWA.WA.USA.NOAM
OH6RBV.#VAA.FIN.EURO
SK2AT.AC.SWE.EURO
OH6RBG.FIN.EURO
KE7KD.#NONEV.NV.USA.NOAM
WX3K.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM

References:

1. Jenkins, Lew (N6VV), Dave Toth (VE3GYQ), and Hank Oredson (W0RLI).
International Routing Designators. Proceedings of the ARRL 7th Computer
Networking Conference. Columbia Maryland. October 1, 1988. pp. 91-93.
2. Clark, Tom (W3IWI). Some comments on the 'H'ierarchical Continent
Address Designator. Proceedings of the ARRL 9th Computer Networking
Conference. London, Ontario Canada. September 22, 1990. pp. 278-279.

TABLE 1: Continent Identifiers

EURO -- Europe
MEDR -- Mediterranean
INDI -- Indian Ocean including the Indian subcontinent
MDLE -- Middle East
SEAS -- South-East Asia
ASIA -- The Orient

NOAM -- North America (Canada, USA, Mexico)
CEAM -- Central America
CARB -- Caribbean
SOAM -- South America

AUNZ -- Australia/New Zealand
EPAC -- Eastern Pacific
NPAC -- Northern Pacific
SPAC -- Southern Pacific
WPAC -- Western Pacific

NAFR -- Northern Africa
CAFR -- Central Africa
SAFR -- Southern Africa

ANTR -- Antarctica

TABLE 2: Country Identifiers

ARG -- Argentina
AUS -- Australia
AUT -- Austria
BEL -- Belgium
BMU -- Bermuda
BOL -- Bolivia
BRA -- Brazil
BRN -- Brunei
BGR -- Bulgaria
CAN -- Canada
CHL -- Chile
CHN -- China
COL -- Colombia
CRI -- Costa Rica
CUB -- Cuba
DNK -- Denmark
DOM -- Dominican Republic
ECU -- Ecuador
EGY -- Egypt
SLV -- El Salvador
FIN -- Finland

FRA -- France
 PYF -- French Polynesia
 DEU -- Germany
 GRC -- Greece
 GRL -- Greenland
 GTM -- Guatemala
 HTI -- Haiti
 HND -- Honduras
 HKG -- Hong Kong
 HUN -- Hungary
 ISL -- Iceland
 IND -- India
 IDN -- Indonesia
 IRL -- Ireland
 ISR -- Israel
 ITA -- Italy
 JPN -- Japan
 PRK -- Korea, North
 KOR -- Korea, South
 LBN -- Lebanon
 LIE -- Liechtenstein
 LUX -- Luxembourg
 MYS -- Malaysia
 MEX -- Mexico
 MCO -- Monaco
 MAR -- Morocco
 NLD -- Netherlands
 NZL -- New Zealand
 NIC -- Nicaragua
 NOR -- Norway
 PAK -- Pakistan
 PAN -- Panama
 PRY -- Paraguay
 PER -- Peru
 PHL -- Phillipines
 POL -- Poland
 PRT -- Portugal
 ROM -- Romania
 SAU -- Saudi Arabia
 SGP -- Singapore
 ZAF -- South Africa
 ESP -- Spain
 SWE -- Sweden
 CHE -- Switzerland
 SYR -- Syria
 TWN -- Taiwan
 THA -- Thailand
 TUR -- Turkey
 GBR -- United Kingdom
 USA -- United States
 URY -- Uruguay
 SUN -- USSR ??? (Document needs latest defintions)
 VEN -- Venezuela
 YUG -- Yugoslavia

TABLE 3: Region Identifiers organized by Country Codes.

ARG -- Argentina
 BA -- ??
 CF -- ??
 AUS -- Australia
 ??
 AUT -- Austria
 ??
 BEL -- Belgium
 HT -- ??
 LG -- ??
 OVN -- ??
 WVL -- ??
 BMU -- Bermuda
 ??
 BOL -- Bolivia
 ??
 BRA -- Brazil
 RS -- ??
 SP -- ??
 BRN -- Brunei

??
 BGR -- Bulgaria
 ??
 CAN -- Canada
 ?? -- Newfoundland
 AB -- Alberta
 BC -- British Columbia
 MB -- Manitoba
 NB -- New Brunswick
 NS -- Nova Scotia
 NW -- Northwest Territories
 ON -- Ontario
 PQ -- ??
 QB -- Quebec
 SK -- Saskatchewan
 YK -- Yukon
 CHL -- Chile
 ??
 CHN -- China
 ??
 COL -- Colombia
 ??
 CRI -- Costa Rica
 ??
 CUB -- Cuba
 ??
 DNK -- Denmark
 ??
 DOM -- Dominican Republic
 ??
 ECU -- Ecuador
 ??
 EGY -- Egypt
 ??
 SLV -- El Salvador
 ??
 FIN -- Finland
 ??
 FRA -- France
 FCEN -- ??
 FRPA -- ??
 FCAL -- ??
 FPDL -- ??
 FMLR -- ??
 FNOR -- ??
 FCOR -- ??
 FPOC -- ??
 FAQI -- ??
 PYF -- French Polynesia
 ??
 DEU -- Germany
 BY -- ??
 GRC -- Greece
 ??
 GRL -- Greenland
 ??
 GTM -- Guatemala
 none
 HTI -- Haiti
 ??
 HND -- Honduras
 ??
 HKG -- Hong Kong
 ??
 HUN -- Hungary
 ??
 ISL -- Iceland
 ??
 IND -- India
 ??
 IDN -- Indonesia
 ??
 IRL -- Ireland
 ??
 ISR -- Israel
 ??
 ITA -- Italy
 IEMR -- ??
 IFVG -- ??

ILOM -- ??
 IPIE -- ??
 IPUG -- ??
 ISAR -- ??
 ISIC -- ??
 ITAA -- ??
 IVEN -- ??
 MO -- ??
 JPN -- Japan
 ??
 PRK -- Korea, North
 ??
 KOR -- Korea, South
 ??
 LBN -- Lebanon
 ??
 LIE -- Liechtenstein
 ??
 LUX -- Luxembourg
 ??
 MYS -- Malaysia
 ??
 MEX -- Mexico
 ??
 MCO -- Monaco
 ??
 MAR -- Morocco
 ??
 NLD -- Netherlands
 ??
 NZL -- New Zealand
 ??
 NIC -- Nicaragua
 ??
 NOR -- Norway
 ??
 PAK -- Pakistan
 ??
 PAN -- Panama
 ??
 PRY -- Paraguay
 ??
 PER -- Peru
 ??
 PHL -- Phillipines
 ??
 POL -- Poland
 ??
 PRT -- Portugal
 CTPT -- ??
 ROM -- Romania
 ??
 SAU -- Saudi Arabia
 ??
 SGP -- Singapore
 ??
 ZAF -- South Africa
 ??
 ESP -- Spain
 EACA -- ??
 EAH -- ??
 EASE -- ??
 EAHU -- ??
 EAZ -- ??
 SWE -- Sweden
 AC -- ??
 CHE -- Switzerland
 ??
 SYR -- Syria
 ??
 TWN -- Taiwan
 ??
 THA -- Thailand
 ??
 TUR -- Turkey
 ??
 GBR -- United Kingdom (need a list of routing numbers by county)
 #1 -- ??
 #2 -- ??

```

# ---- ??
USA -- United States
AK  -- Alaska
AL  -- Alabama
AR  -- Arkansas
AZ  -- Arizona
CA  -- California
CO  -- Colorado
CT  -- Connecticut
DE  -- Delaware
FL  -- Florida
GA  -- Georgia
HI  -- Hawaii
IA  -- Iowa
ID  -- Idaho
IL  -- Illinois
IN  -- Indiana
KS  -- Kansas
KY  -- Kentucky
LA  -- Louisiana
MA  -- Massachusetts
MD  -- Maryland
ME  -- Maine
MI  -- Michigan
MS  -- Mississippi
MN  -- Minnesota
MO  -- Missouri
MT  -- Montana
NC  -- North Carolina
ND  -- North Dakota
NE  -- Nebraska
NH  -- New Hampshire
NJ  -- New Jersey
NM  -- New Mexico
NV  -- Nevada
NY  -- New York
OH  -- Ohio
OK  -- Oklahoma
OR  -- Oregon
PA  -- Pennsylvania
RI  -- Rhode Island
SC  -- South Carolina
SD  -- South Dakota
TN  -- Tennessee
TX  -- Texas
UT  -- Utah
VA  -- Virginia
VT  -- Vermont
WA  -- Washington
WI  -- Wisconsin
WV  -- West Virginia
WY  -- Wyoming
URY -- Uruguay
MVD -- ??
SUN -- USSR ??? (Document needs latest definitions)
??
VEN -- Venezuela

YUG -- Yugoslavia
SRB -- ??

```

Table 4: Area Definitions

This table to be defined during the comment period.
 All readers are suggested to submit their regional area definitions for
 inclusion in the table. Be sure to include the region and country.
 Example: #DFW.TX.USA -- Dallas/Ft Worth Texas Area
 would be an entry in this table.

---- END ----

Note: This recommendation will be available shortly on the tapr.org system
 for request.

26. Re: Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

From: wlb@saturn.bloomu.edu (William L. Barnes)
Date: Sun, 11 Sep 94 10:16:41 EDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409111416.AA11666@bloomu.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Regional Area Definitions for Pennsylvania:

#EPA
#WPA

They stand for the arrl sections: Eastern PA, and Western PA.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlb@saturn.bloomu.edu         * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam  *
*****
```

27. hierarchical.bbssig

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sun, 11 Sep 1994 16:11:43 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199409112111.QAA07631@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The file hierarchical.bbssig should be available by Tuesday on TAPR.ORG
For those that had not gotten the message when posted or you want another
copy, you can request it be mailed to you with the following command sent to
listserv@tapr.org. The command should appear in the body of the message.

get bbssig hierarchical.bbssig

Cheers - Greg

28. Re: Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

From: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>
Date: Tue, 13 Sep 1994 10:18:54 +0200 (BST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0qkU0s-0004gBC@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
>
>
> Proposed Recommendation for:
>   Hierarchical Addressing Protocol
>
> Authors:
>   Dave Wolf, W05H
>   Greg Jones, WD5IVD
>   Roy Engehausen, AA4RE
>   Hank Oredson, W0RLI
>
> Date:
>   August 30th, 1994
>
> Comment Period on Table Changes:
>   September 1st, 1994 through January 31st, 1995
>
> Send Comments to:
>   Dave Wolf, W05H, TAPR BBS SIG Chair
>   Packet: wo5h@wo5h.#dfw.tx.usa.noam
>   Internet: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu
>   Fax: (817) 295-6232
> [ stuff deleted, but agreed with ]
>
> -----
>
> TABLE 1: Continent Identifiers
>
>   EURO -- Europe
>   MEDR -- Mediterranean
>   INDI -- Indian Ocean including the Indian subcontinent
>   MDLE -- Middle East
>   SEAS -- South-East Asia
```

```

> ASIA -- The Orient
>
> NOAM -- North America (Canada, USA, Mexico)
> CEAM -- Central America
> CARB -- Caribbean
> SOAM -- South America
>
> AUNZ -- Australia/New Zealand
> EPAC -- Eastern Pacific
> NPAC -- Northern Pacific
> SPAC -- Southern Pacific
> WPAC -- Western Pacific
>
> NAFR -- Northern Africa
> CAFR -- Central Africa
> SAFR -- Southern Africa
>
> ANTR -- Antarctica
>
> -----
>
> TABLE 2: Country Identifiers
>
> ARG -- Argentina
> AUS -- Australia
> AUT -- Austria
> BEL -- Belgium
> BMU -- Bermuda
> BOL -- Bolivia
> BRA -- Brazil
> BRN -- Brunei
> BGR -- Bulgaria
> CAN -- Canada
> CHL -- Chile
> CHN -- China
> COL -- Colombia
> CRI -- Costa Rica
> CUB -- Cuba
> DNK -- Denmark
> DOM -- Dominican Republic
> ECU -- Ecuador
> EGY -- Egypt
> SLV -- El Salvador
> FIN -- Finland
> FRA -- France
> PYF -- French Polynesia
> DEU -- Germany
> GRC -- Greece
> GRL -- Greenland
> GTM -- Guatemala
> HTI -- Haiti
> HND -- Honduras
> HKG -- Hong Kong
> HUN -- Hungary
> ISL -- Iceland
> IND -- India
> IDN -- Indonesia
> IRL -- Ireland
> ISR -- Israel
> ITA -- Italy
> JPN -- Japan
> PRK -- Korea, North
> KOR -- Korea, South
> LBN -- Lebanon
> LIE -- Liechtenstein
> LUX -- Luxembourg
> MYS -- Malaysia
> MEX -- Mexico
> MCO -- Monaco
> MAR -- Morocco
> NLD -- Netherlands
> NZL -- New Zealand
> NIC -- Nicaragua
> NOR -- Norway
> PAK -- Pakistan
> PAN -- Panama
> PRY -- Paraguay
> PER -- Peru
> PHL -- Phillipines

```

> POL -- Poland
> PRT -- Portugal
> ROM -- Romania
> SAU -- Saudi Arabia
> SGP -- Singapore
> ZAF -- South Africa
> ESP -- Spain
> SWE -- Sweden
> CHE -- Switzerland
> SYR -- Syria
> TWN -- Taiwan
> THA -- Thailand
> TUR -- Turkey
> GBR -- United Kingdom
> USA -- United States
> URY -- Uruguay
> SUN -- USSR ??? (Document needs latest definitions)
> VEN -- Venezuela
> YUG -- Yugoslavia
>

I don't have my ISO country code table to hand, but (if it isn't the case) could we make SURE that we use ISO country codes.

===

Dirk

29. Re: Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

From: Dirk-Jan Koopman <dkj@dirku.demon.co.uk>
Date: Tue, 13 Sep 1994 10:34:10 +0200 (BST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0qkUFe-0004gBC@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

A further thought, it might well be a good time for the authors to consider the consequences of allowing 'short' or incomplete addressing

By that I mean, for example, GB7TLH.GBR.EURO (as opposed to GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU[RO] as at present). It is surely necessary for Software to cope with minimal addressing of this sort, rather than expecting users to remember full blown, ever more complex and (inevitably) longer addresses. I am fully aware of WP and modern aids, but these are, at best, imperfect - I believe that it should be possible for users to type in @ GB7TLH (in the UK) and @ GB7TLH.GBR.EU (outside the UK) and it should get to me.

If this is agreeable, could the mechanism for this be defined in the standards document please.

The whole point of x.3.4, it seems to me, is that the 'x' is for National use and agreement, not for international (or dare I say it, US) definition. I therefore deprecate (in the nicest possible way) the _definition_ of each country's _current_ version of 'x' in the standards document.

Dirk G1TLH

30. FBB files

From: Ron Mackay <rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Date: Fri, 16 Sep 1994 20:59:12 -0300 (ADT)
To: TAPR BBS SIG <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409162050.C28130-0100000@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks a bunch Karl for those F6FBB files, lot of interesting reading.

Now for an FBB problem:

Why does FBB change that status of killed bulletins to BF from BK ? This then allows users to read them.
It has something to do with them being makred for fwding to other BBS, I even created a DUMMY BBS so they wouldnt be forwarded completely.

73 - Ron
VE1AIC @VE1AIC.PE.CAN.NOAM

31. hierarchical recommendation available

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sat, 17 Sep 1994 19:05:00 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199409180005.TAA22175@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The TAPR recommendation on Hierarchical Addressing can now be requested by sending mail to 'listserv@tapr.org' and including the following command in the message:

get bbssig hierarchical

Subarchive: bbssig -- Files:
hierarchical (1 part, 10485 bytes) -- BBSSIG Hierarchical Addressing
Protocol Recommendation

Feedback and information regarding the various tables is still needed.

32. Re: hierarchical recommendation available

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 1994 06:27:02 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.940918062224.15659A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 17 Sep 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> The TAPR recommendation on Hierarchical Addressing can now be requested by
> sending mail to 'listserv@tapr.org' and including the following command in
> the message:

>
> get bbssig hierarchical

>

>

> ----

>

> Subarchive: bbssig -- Files:
> hierarchical (1 part, 10485 bytes) -- BBSSIG Hierarchical Addressing
> Protocol Recommendation

>

> Feedback and information regarding the various tables is still needed.

>

>

It amazes me that so little is known of the "state" designators for most of the world. Also the listing while very nice is not useful to many bbs sysops since they will need to print it out and then compare the suggested standard to what they have. I suggest they save a copy of the old one in case they find the mail stops moving...hi

- 73, de karl k5di

33. BBSSIG-Heirarch Addressing (fwd)

From: Ron Mackay <rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 1994 11:42:49 -0300 (ADT)
To: TAPR BBS SIG <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409181120.B25186-0100000@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

FYI there are some errors/ommissions in the CAN section of the address list. There is a problem with Quebec as some people use PQ and the others use QC. The most important Province was forgotten, Prince Edward Island is PE.

73 - Ron

=====

CAN -- Canada
NF -- Newfoundland
AB -- Alberta
BC -- British Columbia
MB -- Manitoba
NB -- New Brunswick
NS -- Nova Scotia
NW -- Northwest Territories
ON -- Ontario
PQ -- Quebec
PE -- Prince Edward Island

QC -- Quebec
SK -- Saskatchewan
YK -- Yukon
CHL -- Chile

34. Re: Lack of Regional IDs

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 19 Sep 1994 00:51:50 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199409190551.AAA19565@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I don't know Karl.

I took many of the regional ids that are in the proposal from the large batch of messages you had uploaded. I have never seen regional ids in a list before...has anyone else ?

Greg

35. Re: BBSSIG-Heirarch Addressing (fwd)

From: Michael Abernathy <mike@splinter.rad.usf.edu>
Date: Mon, 19 Sep 1994 15:14:43 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199409191914.PAA22549@splinter.rad.usf.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ron Mackay <rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca> wrote:

>There is a problem with Quebec as some people use PQ and the
>others use QC.

(etc.)

That problem will be solved when Quebec gets its own country code.

Mike KC4LJN

36. Re: Lack of Regional IDs

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 19 Sep 1994 16:42:32 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.940919163608.5500A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 19 Sep 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> I don't know Karl.
>
> I took many of the regional ids that are in the proposal from the large
> batch of messages you had uploaded. I have never seen regional ids in a
> list before...has anyone else ?
>
> Greg
>
>

I was not clear Greg, sorry. By regional things I mean like the state abbreviation we use here. Like you said we need something from the former Soviet Union that gets the message within 1000 miles of the desired location. To put this in prospective, my son has an office near the sea of Azof in the current Russia. It takes 3 hours by Airoflot to go from his office to Moscow. It takes me 4 hours to fly from El Paso to National A/P in Washington as I did today.

At least we in the USA know about where Idaho is located...

-karl

37. PBBS software info.

From: dba@sxb.bsf.alcatel.fr (Dale BARBER)
Date: Tue, 20 Sep 94 12:56:09 +0200
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: dba@sxb.bsf.alcatel.fr
Message-ID: <9409201056.AA17830@dalton.cae>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Gooday folks,

I'm hoping you might be able to help me with information concerning current packet radio technology. I found your address in the book written by Stan Horzepa 'Your Gateway to PACKET RADIO', and after advise from an American friend, I decided to write to you directly.

Firstly let me describe the communications problem that I'm attempting to solve:

- some friends who are doctors, nurses and other voluntary aid workers currently working in Tchad in Africa, indicated to me the difficulties they were having communicating with one another and with the rest of the world. Down there, there is no telephone network to speak of outside of the capital Ndjamenia and at the moment, aid workers try and get by by using HF SSB radio, which has proved to be not very successful.

I suggested the use of packet radio, with a packet BBS situated in the capital, and with the remote workers in the field simply logging in to up or down load email. Apparently there is Internet access in Ndjamenia via dial up lines onto a PAD on their public packet switching network TCHADPAC, although I'm still waiting on the details of how we can actually connect.

And now for my questions:

- do you think this would be a viable solution?
- what is the highest bitrate that can be sent using state of the art TNCs over a HF SSB radio link? Has the 300bps barrier been broken and if so, by who and do they use a forward error correcting protocol with data compression? HF is essential because distances up to 1000Kms in one hop must be covered.
- do you think a TCP/IP protocol such as KA9Q would be the best or would you suggest another simpler protocol? The users are not really computer literate and they would have to be trained to use the system.
- which packet BBS software would you recommend? Would PBBS software such as MYSYS or the ROSErver Packet Radio Mailbox System be a good choice? The hardware would be a PC compatible running DOS/WINDOWS. I don't know whether a UUCP, SLIP or PPP connection is available for the Internet connection, but do such drivers exist for a packet BBS running DOS. I've seen packet radio network subdomains on the Internet so I suppose they exist.

The packet BBS would have to be as maintenance free as possible since few of the aid workers down there would be capable of maintaining it. Remote maintenance over the Internet would be the ideal solution.

Since this is a charity aid organisation, there are not many financial resources available for purchasing equipment hence all software would preferably have to be public domain. Do you have a BBS from which public domain software such as some of the above mentioned applications, can be retrieved by ftp over the Internet?

I'd really appreciate any info you can give me related to the above. These voluntary doctors, who are French, (I'm Australian by the way), will be coming across to the States in 10 days and I'd really like to have something concrete to propose to them so that they can start looking for the necessary equipment to buy while there.

I'm a software engineer by profession but I'm donating my services here. I did actually sit for and pass my amateur radio operator exams many years ago in Melbourne but I never activated my license since I moved across to Europe shortly afterwards.

I'm also new to the area of packet radio so all advice will be gratefully accepted.

Please redirect this mail to the best person to speak to regarding the preceding questions. An Email response would be fine.

Thanks once again for all advice, info and help you can offer.

Cheers.....Dale Barber

38. Re: BBSSIG-Heirarch Addressing (fwd)

From: Daniel Audet <daudet@LLC.org>
Date: Mon, 26 Sep 1994 07:33:08 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.85.9409260708.B23832-0100000@biko.llc.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

about the QUEBEC PQ is the only one that is ok QC was started by some government peoples for government used and some stupid sysop or user still use it. I has a debate 7 years ago when i start up by BBS i was the only one using PQ and i was able to convince them to change to PQ form QC

If any of you can provide me call that are using QC i will talk to them
The country code is not for tomorrow as far as i know hi hi...

73 de Dan, ax.25net: VE2PNK@VE2PSQ.#SFOY.PQ.CAN.NA
 amprnet: not yet but it's coming
 internet: daudet@biko.llc.org
 fax: 418-622-5363
 tel: 418-622-3238

39. Grid Square in Address?

From: ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM
Date: Mon, 26 Sep 1994 9:25:05 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM
Message-ID: <940926092505.204003da@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Recently I have found a bunch of messages hung up on my 'RLI PBBS because a grid square location was entered into the address. For example:
W0zzz@en34ir.mn.usa.noam

Did I miss something? Are we now routing on grid squares???? When and who decided this???

This brings to mind something I did want to find out. In the APRS documents there is a request for sysops to include their grid square or lat/long in the message heading. How can this be done without screwing up the auto routing like I earlier noted? To support APRS seems to be a good thing.\

Ideas???

73
Carl WA0CQG

40. Re: Grid Square in Address?

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 26 Sep 94 10:17:30 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409261017.ZM6191@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sep 26, 9:33am, ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM wrote:

> Subject: Grid Square in Address?

> Recently I have found a bunch of messages hung up on my 'RLI PBBS because
> a grid square location was entered into the address. For example:
> W0zzz@en34ir.mn.usa.noam

>

> Did I miss something? Are we now routing on grid squares???? When and who
> decided this???

>

> This brings to mind something I did want to find out. In the APRS documents
> there is a request for sysops to include their grid square or lat/long in
> the message heading. How can this be done without screwing up the auto
> routing like I earlier noted? To support APRS seems to be a good thing.\

>

> Ideas???

>

> 73

> Carl WA0CQG

>-- End of excerpt from ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM

The grid square in the address did not cause the message to "hang" ... it's just extra info that is normally ignored (who would ever want to route on grid squares?).

* Internet: wlb@saturn.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

43. Re: Grid Square

From: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>
Date: Tue, 27 Sep 1994 08:45:36 +0200 (BST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0qpXEG-0004gXC@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ofcourse if one were being a little contentious (I never am, as you all know), one could suggest that routing on the gridsquare ONLY might not be such a bad idea.

It does have the merit of being regular and can be related to direction of travel.

Let's think about the possibilities before dismissing it completely out of hand.

Luv

Dirk G1TLH@J002LQ

44. Re: Grid Square

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@saturn.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 27 Sep 1994 09:25:51 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409270931.B29039-0100000@saturn>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 27 Sep 1994, Dirk-Jan Koopman wrote:

> It does have the merit of being regular and can be related to direction
> of travel.

I will give you that... However, it's easier for me to remember #epa than FN10.

> Let's think about the possibilities before dismissing it completely out
> of hand.

Well, if you have some good points, or someone else have some good points, I'm game to listen to them...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlb@saturn.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

45. Re: Grid Square

From: Bill Healy <healy@ee.unr.edu>
Date: Tue, 27 Sep 94 15:34:14 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409272236.AA23711@solstice>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> > It does have the merit of being regular and can be related to direction
> > of travel.

>

> I will give you that... However, it's easier for me to remember #epa than
> FN10.

RIGHT!!!! Who are we trying to make it easier for, the users or the software to TRY and figure out which direction to send mail????

> > Let's think about the possibilities before dismissing it completely out
> > of hand.

>

> Well, if you have some good points, or someone else have some good points, I'm game to listen to them...

Usually the only time you actually send mail in the direction of the system it's going to is when it's local. And the rest of the time when the destination system is not local you send it towards an hf gateway, modem

forwarder or internet gateway which is usually in the opposite direction.

Bill

healy@moriah.ee.unr.edu
n8khn@hamgate.n8khn.ampr.org
n8khn@hamgate.ee.unr.edu
n8khn@n8khn.#nonev.nv.usa.noam

Yes, I am well connected and speak from experience.

46. Re: Grid Square

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 00:14:04 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199409280414.AA13229@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

When grid squares were tried in Upstate NY it created a real mess for us who only forward on compliant h-addresses (open can of worms here !)

Many FBB sysops were greeted with hundreds of UNKNOWN ROUTES due to the mess. I for one refused to alter my forward scripts to accept these renegade addresses. I elected to forward to those BBS's based on CALLSIGN, and passed them to a bbs sysop who wanted to deal with the renegade addresses.

What the grid square people don't realize is that they are adding another level of confusion. What is so bad about #EPA ? Isn't that descriptive enough ? Isn't it true that most gateways route on STATE to get it close enough to be delivered by CALLSIGN if not by #region ? I find it hard to believe that #region isn't close enough. If the server of the region doesn't know all the BBS's in that region whose fault is that? The regional distributor will be routing on CALLSIGNS at that point, NOT #region or gridsquare.

C'mon folks this sounds like a Cure in search of a Disease. It's foolish at best and downright detrimental to the Packet Network at worst. The grid square people have it all wrong. The present system of #region is working just fine, thank you. They should talk to those of us who really move traffic to see how it's done.

--

Frank- SysOp WA2NDV.#NLI.NY.USA.NA / London and Burbank Wormholes
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

47. BBS Software

From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 08:54:12 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199409281553.IAA07657@dopey.qualcomm.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am interested in everyone's opinion on what is the best packet BBS software and why. I know there are several kind out there, like FBB, W0RLI, MSYS etc. One of the clubs here in North county San Diego, CA is going to put up a BBS, and I was asked what kind of software is available and which one should we use. I said I didn't have the slightest idea, however I know where there is a group that might have a good idea.

I guess the question is, if you had a clean slate, and were going to do it over again, which would you pick and why. I will summarize and post when all of the answers are in.

Thanks for your interest.

Marvin Munster, WB6PKK
mmunster@qualcomm.com

48. Re: Grid Square

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 94 09:45:48 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409280945.ZM7927@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sep 27, 11:17pm, Frank Garofalo wrote:
> Subject: Re: Grid Square

> When grid squares were tried in Upstate NY it created a real mess for us
> who only forward on compliant h-addresses (open can of worms here !)
>
> Many FBB sysops were greeted with hundreds of UNKNOWN ROUTES due to the
> mess. I for one refused to alter my forward scripts to accept these
> renegade addresses. I elected to to forward to those BBS's based on
> CALLSIGN, and passed them to a bbs sysop who wanted to deal with the
> renegade addresses.

That's an FBB problem ... the "RLI sysops" didn't even notice
that anything happened <smile> ...

> What the grid square people dont realize is that they are adding another
> level of confusion. What is so bad about #EPA ? Isnt that descriptive
> enough ? Isnt it true that most gateways route on STATE to get it close
> enough to be delivered by CALLSIGN if not by #region ? I find it hard to
> believe that #region isnt close enough. If the server of the region
> doesnt know all the BBS's in that region whose fault is that? The
> regional distributor will be routing on CALLSIGNS at that point, NOT
> #region or gridsquare.

You are exactly right: the HF (and other long haul) gateways handle
the traffic by country and state. Once inside the state, most of
us handle the traffic by bbs callsign, or by "#" region. Simple to
understand, simple to maintain, and has been working very well for
quite a few years.

> C'mon folks this sounds like a Cure in search of a Disease. Its foolish
> at best and downright detrimental to the Packet Network at worst. The
> grid square people have it all wrong. The present system of #region is
> working just fine, thank you. They should talk to those of us who really
> move traffic to see how its done.

Agree. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

49. Re: Grid Square

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlb@phoebe.bloomu.edu>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 12:52:24 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409281259.A351-0100000@phoebe>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 28 Sep 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:

> That's an FBB problem ... the "RLI sysops" didn't even notice
> that anything happened <smile> ...

Did something happen? All I know is that I have my forward files set to
"when in doubt, forward to the satgate..."

Maybe this is because I'm running a "RLI clone..."

> Agree. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Or my favorite: "if it ain't broke, don't break it..."

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlb@saturn.bloomu.edu          * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam   *                      *
*****
```

50. Re: BBS Software

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 11:12:49 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.940928111214.12256B-100000@kazak>

On Wed, 28 Sep 1994, Marvin Munster x5388 wrote:

-karl

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 16:25:16 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <940928162516.10f2c@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am using AA4RE at present and like it very much because of its ease of setup as well as its incredible flexibility -- you can set it up to be as complex or as simple as you wish -- whatever you want for whatever your needs may be. It also uses plain language for all of its operating files which is a major plus in my opinion.

I think you can still obtain WA7MBL software, but it is rather old compared to the presently available stuff. You might also consider CBB5 as well. I have set it up, but found it inadequate for my particular needs.

GL es VY 73, Ed Sadowski, K1BYV
Army MARS Region One BBS/Gateway AT1TFC

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 16:26:40 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <940928162640.10f2c@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

73. Ed Sadowski, K1BYV

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From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM Wed Sep 28 15:56:55 1994
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 15:56:48 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <940928155648.20401617@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Subject: Re: Grid Square

On Sep 27, 11:17pm, Frank Garofalo wrote:
> Subject: Re: Grid Square
> When grid squares were tried in Upstate NY it created a real mess for us
> who only forward on compliant h-addresses (open can of worms here !)
>
> Many FBB sysops were greeted with hundreds of UNKNOWN ROUTES due to the
> mess.

Hank Oredson, W0RLI responded:
> That's an FBB problem ... the "RLI sysops" didn't even notice
> at best and downright detrimental to the Packet Network at worst. The
> grid square people have it all wrong. The present system of #region is
> working just fine, thank you. They should talk to those of us who really
> move traffic to see how its done.

Hank wrote:
Agree. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

I wrote:

Well it is broke now!

Carl

54. Re: Grid Square

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 17:06:59 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199409282107.AA01007@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank we are in agreement here....please dont let it happen again !

--
Frank
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

55. Re: Grid Square

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 94 14:26:44 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409281426.ZM8134@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sep 28, 4:13pm, Frank Garofalo wrote:
> Subject: Re: Grid Square
> Hank we are in agreement here....please dont let it happen again !
>
> --
> Frank
> frankg@panix.com
> [your ad here]
>-- End of excerpt from Frank Garofalo

Oh my ... well, guess it's "just one of those days" !

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

56. RE: BBS Software

From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 17:03:43 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199409290003.RAA09473@dopey.qualcomm.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks for the information. I intend to collect as many as I can and try them. I havn't found AA4RE yet, but I will keep trying.
Thanks again.
Marvin, WB6PKK
mmunster@qualcomm.com

>Hi Marvin...
>
>I am using AA4RE at present and like it very much because of its ease of
>setup as well as its incredible flexibility -- you can set it up to be as
>complex or as simple as you wish -- whatever you want for whatever your
>needs may be. It also uses plain language for all of its operating files
>which is a major plus in my opinion.
>
>I have set up msys without any problems as well, but find it awkward to
>use especially for its lack of an action file which AA4RE has and which is
>the source of the flexibility of the AA4RE software. MSYS does have
>compression compatibility with W0RLI and FBB, the one feature presently
>lacking in AA4RE, but this is not a consideration in my present needs. I
>believe that Roy will incorporate some form of compression in his next
>release. I tried to set up FBB and found it to be an absolute nightmare
>compared to AA4RE and MSYS. It is my opinion and my opinion only that the
>author of FBB seemed to go out of his way to make things as complicated as
>possible! I have never tried W0RLI, but that seems to be the software of
>choice in New England as far as I can tell.
>
>I think you can still obtain WA7MBL software, but it is rather old
>compared to the presently available stuff. You might also consider CBBS
>as well. I have set it up, but found it inadequate for my particular
>needs.
>
>What you may wish to do is to obtain copies of all of the BBS software out
>there and set each of them up to find out about ease of setup and
>operations. Then you can make a decision on which suits your requirements
>best and stay with it. By the way, I am running AA4RE v.2.1R in
>conjunction with G8BPQ v.4.07a packet switch.
>
>GL es VY 73, Ed Sadowski, K1BYV
>Army MARS Region One BBS/Gateway AT1TFC

57. RE:Grid Squares

From: Ron Mackay <rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 21:40:29 -0300 (ADT)
To: TAPR BBS SIG <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409282158.A5948-0100000@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The Grid Square thing is unnecessary confusion, sure you can run a program (FBB) to tell you the exact Lat/Long of the station but what good is that? It could have been done a lot better with Postal (Zip) codes but I wont open that can of ... HI. Let's the Regional addressing alone, each area decides its own titles and most are easy to understand so was there ever a problem?

58. PQ vs QC

From: Ron Mackay <rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 21:45:19 -0300 (ADT)
To: TAPR BBS SIG <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9409282132.E5948-0100000@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I checked my HROUTE.SYS file which has 2100+ entries of which 47 were VE2's and found only 1 used .QC, all the rest used .PQ but on Internet it appears to be just the opposite.
There is a file on our server which has the CA name sites..or at least over 800 of them, of which 63 are in Quebec and ALL use QC. I'm not arguing one over the other just presenting facts that I see.

73 - Ron
VE1AIC @ VE1AIC.PE.CAN.NOAM

59. Re: Grid Square

From: jbrooks@INS.INFONET.NET
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 20:25:00 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <00985297.79FEC30F.82@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> That's an FBB problem ... the "RLI sysops" didn't even notice
> that anything happened <smile> ...

I run FBB and see grid squares in the addressing all too frequently. It does NOT, however, cause the software to choke (probably because it doesn't need to parse the address that far to get where it's going).

> > C'mon folks this sounds like a Cure in search of a Disease. Its foolish
> > at best and downright detrimental to the Packet Network at worst. The
> > grid square people have it all wrong. The present system of #region is
> > working just fine, thank you. They should talk to those of us who reall
> > move traffic to see how its done.

>
> Agree. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

>
> ... Hank

I'll second that! The present system is working. Slow perhaps, but that's not a software problem.

It's working...so KEEP YER MITTS OFF!

Jim
K0JJV @ K0JJV.#NWKS.KS.USA.NOAM
jbrooks@ins.infonet.net

60. Re: BBS Software

From: jbrooks@INS.INFONET.NET
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 20:25:15 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <00985297.834B68EB.84@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
> To: bbssig@tapr.org
> Subject: BBS Software

>
> I am interested in everyones opinion on what is the best packet BBS
> software and why. I know there are several kind out there, like FBB,
> W0RLI, MSYS etc. One of the clubs here in North county San Diego, CA is
> going to put up a BBS, and I was asked what kind of software is available
> and which one should we use. I said I didn't have the slightest idea,
> however I know where there is a group that might have a good idea.

>
> I guess the question is, if you had a clean slate, and were going to do i
> over again, which would you pick and why. I will sumarize and post when
> all of the answers are in.

>
> Thanks for your interest.

>
> Marvin Munster, WB6PKK
> mmunster@qualcomm.com

>
FBB version 5.15c is my choice (although I'd be tempted by RLI if it had a compatible compression).

Jim
K0JJV@K0JJV.#NWKS.KS.USA.NOAM
jbrooks@ins.infonet.net

61. RE: BBS Software

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 22:08:12 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <940928220812.12890@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Marvin...

You can get the latest version of AA4RE from kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov with anonymous ftp in the pub/hamradio/AA4RE directory.

62. RE: BBS Software

From: srbible@cs.nps.navy.mil (Steven R. Bible)
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 19:20:00 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409290220.AA13881@taurus.cs.nps.navy.mil>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ed Sadowski, K1BYV saz...

>the source of the flexibility of the AA4RE software. MSYS does have
>compression compatibility with W0RLI and FBB, the one feature presently

As of version 1.16 W0RLI compression was added to MSYS, though still beta then. Version 1.17 has made corrections and improvements. I haven't tried it yet, but to the point, MSYS is working on getting forwarding compression in the software.

>What you may wish to do is to obtain copies of all of the BBS software out
>there and set each of them up to find out about ease of setup and
>operations. Then you can make a decision on which suits your requirements

This is a big job. One thing I learned as I was evaluating MSYS, you cannot appreciate a BBS program until you have it up and running forwarding messages and users reading and sending messages. Just simply loading the software and looking at it will only tell you half the story! I am happy with MSYS. It is easy to set up, use and maintain. It has nice features too. I would like to try FBB personally, but it is too hard on the users in learning how to use the BBS and me learning how to manage a new BBS.

>best and stay with it. By the way, I am running AA4RE v.2.1R in
>conjunction with G8BPQ v.4.07a packet switch.

MSYS has node software built in. Thus MSYS is all in one. No loading separate programs. We previously had AA4RE running under Desqview to load the BPQ swith and the BBS software. I don't know if this is the norm. Check with Ed on this. It was just the way the fellows before me configured it.

One other thing to consider - Are you going to be doing any remote sysoping?
I do with MSYS through a phone port as the BBS is in a club building. MSYS asks for letters in a long string of words as a password, very similar to NETROM and X1-J. If you are planning a phone port make sure that the software that you pick has a good phone port interface. MSYS has a very primitive phone port interface - it is just like the packet radio interface. No x, y, or zmodem. AA4RE does and so does FBB. I have been told that AA4RE does the best job at remote sysoping. I wish the MSYS phone port user access had more features like x, y, or zmodem up and downloads.

The phone port on our BBS is used a great deal. In fact, it is a great way for new hams that do not have a TNC to learn about packet radio. Even Novices can log on. It has become an important feature of our club's BBS. So on your check list remember to check out the phone modem/port user access/remote sysop features. I am happy with MSYS's.

You might list the features that each of the BBS softwares offer. Consider the things that I mentioned above. Also make a list and poll your prospective users. See what they want in a BBS. Then pick one, stick with it, and learn to care and feed it.

Now, everything above is CONVENTIONAL. If you are truely a pioneer, don't set up any of these BBS's. Instead get linux up and running and teach your users how to use a POP server and a mail reader. But this is TCP/IP you say? Perhaps, but it is your point of view. BBSs are a stop gap measure. True networking is the goal of packet radio. Set up a network server, not another BBS. Teach your users how to network, not how to BBS. Then your users will be learning real networking that they can use at work or even surfing the internet and they have more powerful tools at their disposal. Is this easy? No. But aren't all things that are worth while?

Hope this helps.

Steve, N7HPR

srbible@cs.nps.navy.mil
Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943

63. Re: Grid Square

From: mwestfal@iris.csci.csusb.edu (Michael Westfall)
Date: Wed, 28 Sep 1994 19:21:59 -0700 (PDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409290221.AA24955@iris.csci.csusb.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In a former treatise, Hank Oredson spake thusly:

->
-> On Sep 27, 11:17pm, Frank Garofalo wrote:
-> > Subject: Re: Grid Square

[deletia]

->
-> > C'mon folks this sounds like a Cure in search of a Disease. Its foolish
-> > at best and downright detrimental to the Packet Network at worst. The
-> > grid square people have it all wrong. The present system of #region is
-> > working just fine, thank you. They should talk to those of us who really
-> > move traffic to see how its done.
->
-> Agree. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."
->
-> ... Hank

I agree, too. As a user, please don't try to make me remember everybody's
grid square! The hierarchical addressing scheme is more intuitive and
easy to remember. Let the BBS sysops learn how to set up their systems to
parse the @ field from right to left, the way it ought to be done, if they
want to simplify their routing tables.

->
->
->
-> --
->
-> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
-> Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
-> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM
->
->

73 de Mike, ax.25net: N6KUY@W6JBT.#SOCA.CA.USA.NOAM
 amprnet: n6kuy@n6kuy.ampr.org [44.18.0.49]
 internet : mwestfal@silicon.csci.csusb.edu
Linux: the Gates of Hell shall not prevail.
GCS/M { -d+ p+ c++ l u++ e+(*) m++(-) s/+ !n(---) h-- !f g+ w+ t++ r(--) y+ }

64. Re: Grid Square

From: makinc@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Thu, 29 Sep 1994 13:52:28 +1000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <aab076d1000150022b06@[163.127.10.21]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 2:29 AM 29/9/94, <mwestfal@iris.csci.csusb.edu> wrote:

> easy to remember. Let the BBS sysops learn how to set up their systems to
> parse the @ field from right to left, the way it ought to be done, if they
> want to simplify their routing tables.

Aarrrggghhh Let's not open that can of worms again either.

Grid squares, postal codes, toenail growth rates. Don't bother with them.
what we've got works.

Carl.

--
Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makinc@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

65. Re: BBS Software

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson)
Date: Thu, 29 Sep 1994 03:23:29 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409290723.AA02250@chaos.NIS.chaos>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> MSYS has node software built in. Thus MSYS is all in one. No loading
> separate programs. We previously had AA4RE running under Desqview to load
> the BPQ swith and the BBS software. I don't know if this is the norm.

I'd recommend running a couple different programs and having users try them out over packet and get an idea on thruput and retries. I used to run an MSYS BBS a few years ago and saw lots of retries and slow thruput. I tested an AA4RE with BPQ and then switched to FBB and BPQ and found that they always outperformed the MSYS over packet. Had far fewer retries and those programs appeared quicker over the air. I found MSYS to be trying to cram too much into the program and not concentrating on the actual link layer protocol enough.

Also the TCP/IP in MSYS isn't worth a damn either. Don't run it. I know that people here might say that the program is the greatest thing since sliced bread, but compare it against other programs and programs that implement networking layers differently and you'll find the other programs will probably outperform it.

On the visual sysop point of view though (sitting at the keyboard operating the program), I did like MSYS for that and also FBB. I didn't care for AA4RE on that part, but I liked the program a lot for packet since it was easy to set up and did a lot. It can be very much customized. But who cares about the sysop view of it, it's the packet side that counts!

On locking up... MSYS held the record for that for no apparent reason. FBB came in a close second place. It'll run for a long time with no problems, but then suddently it'll lock up for no reason. Doing something that spread by word of mouth, like deleting a white pages file will usually fix it. This shouldn't happen in the first place. I have no idea on AA4RE BBS locking up, I never had one lock up even once on me before. It was more reliable than any other software.

I have no idea on W0RLI BBS, but I hear that it's up there with the AA4RE BBS software. I feel that if you want to run a BBS don't just get one that looks pretty (MSYS and FBB) or run one because "everyone else in town runs it". Find one that is powerful and configurable to handle any problems that may appear in handling mail (FBB really stinks on this compared to others) and one that is stable and doesn't lock up periodically.

One reason why FBB sysops may say that their software runs for weeks/months without problems is that everyday the program actually exists to run external programs to clean things up, like expiring messages. I personally feel that a good BBS program should be designed to not have to exit every day. When they tell me that it's been running for weeks, it should actually be for hours since it won't be up for more than 24 hours without having to exit.

In case your interested though, I stopped running a BBS a while ago and now just stick to TCP/IP with Linux. Maybe some of the software has changed and the problems are gone, but I doubt it. If something is fixed (and not just some new feature added in) then I'd like to hear about it.

--

Ron N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@n8fow.ampr.org
Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
aa011@detroit.freenet.org

#include <std_disclaimer.h>
/* all views and opinions expressed above are my own. */

66. Re: BBS Software

From: N8RNP@aol.com
Date: Thu, 29 Sep 94 11:45:25 EDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409291145.tn19028@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

We currently run AA4RE version 2.1R and G8BPQ ver. 4.07 in South Eastern Ohio. we used to run MSYS but had a great deal of pain with trying to use a DRSI Dual Port Board. We have had very good luck with the 4RE package for a

number of reasons, but mostly it works! Most of the users in this area are not computer nerds (like me) and have limited computer and packet experience. We looked at the issue more as a service to customer kind of thing. Our 'customers' are happy with how they can operate packet with this system so to serve them, I'll leave it alone. WINPR has some neat servers you can add on for even more user fun.

One of the best things you can do, no matter what system you go with is find an Elmer to help you. Someone you can work with and talk to and walk you through some of the issues that you will (and I mean You Will) have. And remember. And this is important. Ham radio is supposed to be fun so let's keep it fun !!!!

67. Re: PQ vs QC

From: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>
Date: Thu, 29 Sep 1994 11:17:05 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.88.9409291115.A7191-0100000@herald.usask.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 28 Sep 1994, Ron Mackay wrote:

> I checked my HROUTE.SYS file which has 2100+ entries of which 47 were
> VE2's and found only 1 used .QC, all the rest used .PQ but on Internet it
> appears to be just the opposite.
> There is a file on our server which has the CA name sites..or at least
> over 800 of them, of which 63 are in Quebec and ALL use QC. I'm not
> arguing one over the other just presenting facts that I see.

The hierarchical route for all US states is their two letter postal abbreviation. The postal abbreviation for Quebec is PQ so let's stick with that.

If Internet uses QC and we use PQ, it might also help us avoid the "NA syndrome" before it starts.

Cheers
Pete
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

68. Re: BBS Software

From: srbbible@cs.nps.navy.mil (Steven R. Bible)
Date: Thu, 29 Sep 1994 16:43:04 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409292343.AA13454@taurus.cs.nps.navy.mil>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>run an MSYS BBS a few years ago and saw lots of retries and slow thruput.
>I tested an AA4RE with BPQ and then switched to FBB and BPQ and found
>that they always outperformed the MSYS over packet. Had far fewer retries
>and those programs appeared quicker over the air. I found MSYS to be trying
>to cram too much into the program and not concentrating on the actual
>link layer protocol enough.

As with any software you choose, make sure you get the settings correct. It took me a lot of trial and error to get the MSYS parameters right. There was a lot of users who could and couldn't use the system. The bottom line is that you will need to optimize the parameters for your users. Chances are good that the parameters will need to be set to the user who has the oldest and slowest equipment :-). That means a TXDelay around 100 ms.

>On locking up... MSYS held the record for that for no apparent reason.
>FBB came in a close second place. It'll run for a long time with no
>problems, but then suddenly it'll lock up for no reason. Doing something
>that spread by word of mouth, like deleting a white pages file will
>usually fix it. This shouldn't happen in the first place. I have no
>idea on AA4RE BBS locking up, I never had one lock up even once on me
>before. It was more reliable than any other software.

Again, I run our club sponsored BBS remotely as it physically located in a club house. I have had very little problems with MSYS locking up. Perhaps the later versions (I started with 1.15 and am now running 1.17) are more stable than when Ron ran his. I do have to go to the club house to do maintenance on the BBS. The only thing that has to be done that requires shutting down the BBS, and I cannot do remotely, is to delete the old BIDs in the BID list. I usually go up to the club house every two weeks or so, shut down the BBS, delete old backed up mail, delete old BIDs, scandisk, defrag and restart the BBS. Takes about an hour. Again, my biggest concern is remote sysoping. MSYS does a good job of this.

One other point I forgot to mention concerning the phone port. On MSYS, to

give a user access via the phone port you need to get a password from them and you, the sysop, manually enter it into a password file (MSYSPASS.MOD). The user cannot change the password. In AA4RE you can. I don't know about the others. Just another consideration.

>In case your interested though, I stopped running a BBS a while ago and
>now just stick to TCP/IP with Linux. Maybe some of the software has
>changed and the problems are gone, but I doubt it. If something is fixed
>(and not just some new feature added in) then I'd like to hear about it.

Be a pioneer! Linux is easier to set up and run than OS/2. The AX.25 kernel is developing and is ripe for the implementation. I am almost there myself. I would like to discuss with others on how to set it up and train users.

When your users can run NCSA Mosaic over packet radio then everyone will switch. Be the first on your block! Linux requires no more hardware than a packet BBS will (386-33, 4 Meg or RAM, 120 Meg HD). If you have ftp access then Linux is at your finger tips. If not there are several fine CD ROMs. If you do not have a CD ROM then you can get it on floppy disks.

Steve, N7HPR

sr bible@cs.nps.navy.mil
Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943

69. Re: BBS Software

From: sr bible@cs.nps.navy.mil (Steven R. Bible)
Date: Thu, 29 Sep 1994 16:58:46 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9409292359.AA13884@taurus.cs.nps.navy.mil>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> We looked at the issue more as a service to customer kind of thing. Our
>'customers' are happy with how they can operate packet with this system so to
>serve them, I'll leave it alone.W1NPR has some neat servers you can add on
>for even more user fun.

I think you will be surprised at who the users are. Being a computer nut, I naturally tried to build a BBS that had a lot of features. One of which was having the BUCKMASTER CDRom Callbook online. Much to my disappointment, with MSYS you can only access the US Hams on the CDRom, not foreign or club callsigns. I am sure this is just a matter of writing the software to access it (does anyone know how?).

Back to the 'user.' The typical user of our BBS just logs in, checks his or her mail, and then logs off. Very few read the bulletins. Many do use the CDRom callbook. But fewer still use the FILES section. I don't know if it is training or a lack of enthusiasim of the user. I thought every ham was an inquisitive type and would learn on their own all the ins and outs of the BBS. I've even made the user manual avaialble online and passed out printed ones at the club meetings. Still no joy. Many users don't even know to type 'h' for help. Of course, I didn't realize who my user was until after I put the BBS up.

Be careful when you start selling features. Many will not use them.

Steve, N7HPR

sr bible@cs.nps.navy.mil
Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943

October 1994

Original source file: bbssig.9410

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9410

1. PQ vs QC

From: Ron Mackay <rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Date: Mon, 3 Oct 1994 19:23:34 -0300 (ADT)
To: TAPR BBS SIG <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410031956.A4188-0100000@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> On Wed, 28 Sep 1994, Daniel Audet wrote:
>
> > Hi Ron
> > about the list you gave were did you got the QC for quebec.
> > As far as i know QC is not i repeat is not a valid one PQ is the only one
> > there is some NUTs that may use QC because they don't know nothing about it.
> > Do you have some exemple of BBS or Users using QC. Just give me a list
> > and i will tell them to change to PQ instead.
> >
> >
I checked with Canada Post today and found that QC is in fact the proper Postal designation....I like many others have been using PQ but I doubt the Post Office minds too much as its still sorts the mail manually.
On my BBS I put *.PQ.* and *.QC.* in the same sections so I'm covered.
73 - Ron
VE1AIC@VE1AIC.PE.CAN.NOAM

2. Re: PQ vs QC

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 3 Oct 1994 18:28:57 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410032328.SAA27828@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> proper Postal designation....I like many others have been using PQ
> but I doubt the Post Office minds too much as its still sorts the mail
> manually.
> On my BBS I put *.PQ.* and *.QC.* in the same sections so I'm covered.
> 73 - Ron
> VE1AIC@VE1AIC.PE.CAN.NOAM

One solution is the get the BBSs that are in PQ to realize they are really in QC. Outgoing msgs from the new QC stations should update the WPs, then the Sysops will have to catch up and fix thier fwd files.

73 Barry wa0rjt

>

3. Re: PQ vs QC

From: Daniel Audet <daudet@LLC.org>
Date: Thu, 6 Oct 1994 08:38:39 -0400 (EDT)
To: Ron Mackay <rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.85.9410060839.B18052-0100000@biko.llc.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Ron
i see that canada post has change there mind about PQ.
when i did asked them 7 years ago the right one was PQ at that time
anyway like you said by putting both in the fwd your safe,
By the way are you and IBMer or xIBMer you Name is familiar to me.
I was working for the Big Blue before. ROLM IBM and now NORSTAN

73 de Dan, ax.25net: VE2PNK@VE2PSQ.#5FOY.PQ.CAN.NA
 amprnet: not yet but it's comming
 internet: daudet@biko.llc.org
 fax: 418-622-5363
 tel: 418-622-3238

4. Regional Octothorpe

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 10 Oct 1994 01:31:44 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199410100631.BAA23643@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Look over this list and see if you can id the regional octothorpe being used in each state and if we left any out.

What is needed is a simple word(s) that describes the geographic area that the octothorpe represents.

Send them to dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

ADAK#AK
SAK#AK

BHM#AL
CENAL#AL
FHP#AL
HSV#AL
MOBAL#AL
NOAL#AL
SEAL#AL

CENAR#AR
ECENAR#AR
NEAR#AR
NWAR#AR
SEAR#AR
SWAR#AR

APL#AZ
NCAZ#AZ

CENCA#CA
NOCAL#CA
SBRB#CA
SOCA#CA

NECO#CO
NWC0#CO
SECO#CO

APL#DE
CDE#DE
NDE#DE

ARCFL#FL
AVO#FL
BCR#FL
BCRFL#FL
CEWFL#FL
CITFL#FL
CLWFL#FL
COA#FL
COCOA#FL
DABFL#FL
DUNFL#FL
EYWFL#FL
FMY#FL
GNVFL#FL
HIALEAH#FL
HWDFL#FL
JAXFL#FL
JAXFL#FL
KLRG#FL
LAKE#FL
LEO#FL
LKLFL#FL
MIADX#FL
MIAFL#FL
MIAMI#FL
MLBFL#FL
NEFL#FL
NFL#FL

OCFFL#FL
OKLAN#FL
ORLFL#FL
PASFL#FL
PFNFL#FL
PMPFL#FL
PNSFL#FL
PSJ#FL
RCCFL#FL
SRQ#FL
SRQFL#FL
STC#FL
STU#FL
SUNFL#FL
SWFL#FL
TAV#FL
TLH#FL
TPA#FL
VENFL#FL
VRBFL#FL
WPBFL#FL

AGS#GA
ATL#GA
ATLHF#GA
CVL#GA
DLT#GA
ETADS#GA
MAR#GA
NGA#GA
NOGA#GA
NTSGA#GA
SAV#GA
SEGA#GA
SSI#GA
STK#GA
SWGA#GA
VLD#GA
WAL#GA
WCGL#GA

CIA#IA
ECIA#IA
KA0STB#IA
NWIA#IA
SEIA#IA
SWIA#IA
WCIA#IA

INW#ID
LWS#ID
MICBBS#ID

CENOIS#IL
CIL#IL
ECIL#IL
HUB#IL
NCIL#IL
NEIL#IL
NWIL#IL
SEIL#IL
SIL#IL
WCENIL#IL
WCIL#IL

CEIN#IN
CIN#IN
N0IN#IN
NCIN#IN
NEIN#IN
NIN#IN
NOIN#IN
NWIN#IN
SIN#IN

CLBY#KS
KC#KS
NCKS#KS
NEKS#KS

NKS#KS
NWS#KS
SCKS#KS
WCKS#KS

MIDKY#KY
NCKY#KY
NEKY#KY
NWKY#KY
SCKY#KY
SEKY#KY
WKY#KY

BTR#LA
BTRLA#LA
CENLA#LA
LFT#LA
LFTLA#LA
METLA#LA
NELA#LA
NOLA#LA
NWL#LA
SELA#LA

EMA#MA
WMA#MA

SOMD#MD

NEMI#MI
NWM#MI
SEMI#MI
SWM#MI
UPMI#MI

CMN#MN
ECMN#MN
MSP#MN
NCMN#MN
NEMN#MN
NOMN#MN
ROSO#MN
SCMN#MN
ST#MN
STP#MN
WCMN#MN

BRNSN#MO
CEMO#MO
CMO#MO
NCMO#MO
NWMO#MO
SCMO#MO
SEMO#MO
STC#MO
STL#MO
SWMO#MO
WCMO#MO

BIL#MT
GTF#MT
HLN#MT
MSO#MT
SEMT#MT

AVL#NC
BUY#NC
CLT1#NC
DUR#NC
EASTNC#NC
GAS#NC
GSO#NC
HKY#NC
HKY1#NC
ILM#NC
INT#NC
LBT#NC
MEB#NC
RTP#NC

RTP#NC

DL#ND
GFK#ND
JAM#ND
MOT#ND
PAR#ND
RL#ND
SEND#ND
ASHBY#NE
ENE#NE
NENE#NE
SCNE#NE
SENE#NE
WNE#NE

NNH#NH
SCNH#NH

NNJ#NJ
SNJ#NJ

NENEV#NV
NONEV#NV
SONV#NV
SONEV#NV

CNY#NY
ENY#NY
NENY#NY
NLI#NY
NNY#NY
NYC#NY
WNY#NY

CIN#OH
CMH#OH
DAY#OH
EOH#OH
NCOH#OH
NEOH#OH
NOH#OH
NWOH#OH
SEOH#OH
SWOH#OH
TOL#OH

NCOK#OK
NEOK#OK
OKC#OK
SCOK#OK
SWOK#OK

DALLAS#OR
DXMBO#OR
EUGEN#OR
MURPH#OR
NEOR#OR
RBG#OR
RN7NTS#OR
SALEM#OR
SEOR#OR
SWOR#OR

CPA#PA
EPA#PA
NCPA#PA
NPA#PA
NWPA#PA
PHL#PA
SCPA#PA
SEPA#PA
SWPA#PA
WPA#PA

SORI#RI

BEL#SC
CHS#SC

COL#SC
GRD#SC
INM#SC
LANC#SC
MYB#SC
SUM#SC
UOT#SC
WCOL#SC

CESD#SD
NESD#SD
NWSD#SD
SESD#SD
WSD#SD

CHA#TN
METN#TN
MIDTN#TN
NETN#TN
WESTN#TN

AUS#TX
CENTX#TX
DFW#TX
ETX#TX
GTN#TX
NTX#TX
SAT#TX
SETX#TX
STX#TX
TPL#TX
WTX#TX

CDC#UT
CEUT#UT
SLC#UT
SOUT#UT

CVA#VA
DAN#VA
ECVA#VA
HPTN#VA
NOVA#VA
TIDE#VA
TRI#VA

NEVT#VT
NWVT#VT

APLINK#WA
EWA#WA
NWA#WA
SEA#WA
SEWA#WA
SPOKN#WA
VANC#WA
WWA#WA

CFL#WI
CWI#WI
DUR#WI
ECWI#WI
JNSVL#WI
MKE#WI
NOWI#WI
NWI#WI
SCWI#WI
SEWI#WI
TMH#WI
WWI#WI

NEWV#WV
NWV#WV
NWWY#WY
RAWL#WY
SEWY#WY
SOWY#WY

5. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 10 Oct 1994 02:42:06 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941010023718.22268B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I believe the thing, whatever it is was done very well. We in NM do not need it, I don't think...I found the Octothorpe extremely difficult to read. Also the stuff looks redundant since many FL entries had like

XXXFL#FL

That is how it looks to me.

-karl

6. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: jra1854@tnitech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
Date: Mon, 10 Oct 1994 14:16:30 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <01HI44KMG7YQAM2TN3@tnitech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Look over this list and....

Can we get rid of the # character? This would make the names Internet-friendly and hopefully facilitate an easier migration to true Internet addresses in the future. It'd also make it easier for those of us running Linux (and other) systems who are trying to move towards using the built-in networking code.

Also, are these "Octothorpes" going to be required or optional? It'd be nice to have an address that it *the* address....

Jeff, k9ja

Jeffrey Austen		Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@tnitech.edu		Box 5004
+1 615 372 3485		Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

7. Mail Distription

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 10 Oct 1994 14:55:14 -0500 (CDT)
To: netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199410101955.OAA17435@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

For those that are redistributing the netsig and bbssig groups, please look over this.

X-Sender: nobody@nisc.ieee.org
X-Gateway: nisc.ieee.org (1:107/10)
X-Gateway-Postmaster: postmaster@nisc.ieee.org
X-Comment: Please do NOT send UUencoded Files thru this gateway
X-Comment: without prior permission of the Gateway-Postmaster

The question is - please look over your files and see if you are generating this.

As list error handler (me) I am getting a message from this system everytime a message is sent.

No one on any of the lists are at this address, so it is being regenerated someplace else.

Thanks - Greg

8. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 10 Oct 1994 19:30:16 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410110030.TAA15582@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Regional Octothorpe - I know! That's the name of one of the people on the new PBS series Future Quest.

"Regional" has a 95% probability of being understood by users.
"Octothorpe" - similar to grid squares except there are only 8 per state, they have no defined boundaries, only rarely constructed in an intuitive manner,...

If we, a small subset of sysops, can't agree on NA/NOAM, then the chances of standardizing on substate identifiers is zero. With the automatic updating of WP and lookup tables, is this important?

I just think this level of detail is too specific and would be difficult to keep current.

In the case of Iowa, I have accepted the state of my state and reluctantly concur. Noting that a couple of those nthorpes contain 0 <= 1 BBS.

73 Barry wa0rjt

9. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 1994 01:45:06 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410110645.BAA27801@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The ID listed in the message were derived from actual message sent from the first of the year.

There are some interesting things to be seen in the list. As Karl already pointed out, some of the states seems to have little or no consistency -- why ?

I think the purpose is to define a loose def of the various ids listed and possibly cleanup the current system.

I believe the purpose of the exercise is a first step in working on flood to regional areas if someone wanted to do it.

Correct or in correct.

Oh yeah - I think we have agreed on the NOAM...so lets start on something new -- the great flood debate.

Greg

According to Barry Buelow - WA0RJT:

>

>

> Regional Octothorpe - I know! That's the name of one of the people on the new PBS series Future Quest.

>

> "Regional" has a 95% probability of being understood by users.
> "Octothorpe" - similar to grid squares except there are only 8 per state, they have no defined boundaries, only rarely constructed in an intuitive manner,...

>

> -----

>

> If we, a small subset of sysops, can't agree on NA/NOAM, then the chances of standardizing on substate identifiers is zero. With the automatic updating of WP and lookup tables, is this important?

>

> I just think this level of detail is too specific and would be difficult to keep current.

>

> In the case of Iowa, I have accepted the state of my state and reluctantly concur. Noting that a couple of those nthorpes contain 0 <= 1 BBS.

>

> 73 Barry wa0rjt

>

>

>

10. Re: Mail Distribution

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 1994 06:31:45 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941011063018.7353A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 10 Oct 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> For those that are redistributing the netsig and bbssig groups, please look
> over this.
>
> X-Sender: nobody@nisc.ieee.org
> X-Gateway: nisc.ieee.org (1:107/10)
> X-Gateway-Postmaster: postmaster@nisc.ieee.org
> X-Comment: Please do NOT send UUencoded Files thru this gateway
> X-Comment: without prior permission of the Gateway-Postmaster
>

Perhaps someone is irritated with you Greg?

-karl k5di

11. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 1994 09:53:08 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941011095041.14958A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 11 Oct 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> The ID listed in the message were derived from actual message sent from the
> first of the year.
>
> There are some interesting things to be seen in the list. As Karl already
> pointed out, some of the states seems to have little or no consistency --
> why ?

Well, I know in PA, there is offically EPA and WPA. However, some SysOps
add more designation than needed... I cann't explain why...

As for flood designators, how about ARRL section name and State Abrevation...

EX: sb all @ epa \$SomeBid
sb all @ ca \$SomeBid2

What do you think?

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

12. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 1994 08:27:55 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410110832.A7393-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 11 Oct 1994, William L. Barnes wrote:

>
> As for flood designators, how about ARRL section name and State Abrevation...
>
> EX: sb all @ epa \$SomeBid
> sb all @ ca \$SomeBid2
>
> What do you think?

What do you do about the areas that don't have a network that covers the
whole section and part of it gets fed from different sections. We have
the problem now. Everyone ASSUMES that #WNE.NE should go the same place
that #ENE.NE goes. This results in anywhere from several hours delay to
sometimes several days delay. Traffic for #WNE needs to go to Denver CO
and be delivered via Cheyenne WY to me. The same goes for western SD and
some ND traffic.

On that note, readers of this please look over your fwd files and see if

you aren't guilty of the same thing. If you are in a position to do otherwise, please don't wildcard all NE.USA to the same station in the eastern part of the state, or even further east. Send that western stuff to Denver, where it will get here in minutes to hours instead of days later.

73, Gary

13. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 1994 15:12:50 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org, bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410111912.AA15848@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 09:35 AM 10/11/94 CDT, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>
>
>What do you do about the areas that don't have a network that covers the
>whole section and part of it gets fed from different sections. We have
>the problem now. Everyone ASSUMES that #WNE.NE should go the same place
>that #ENE.NE goes. This results in anywhere from several hours delay to
>sometimes several days delay. Traffic for #WNE needs to go to Denver CO
>and be delivered via Cheyenne WY to me. The same goes for western SD and
>some ND traffic.

Then how about a hierarchical address which reflects this, in some way?
Perhaps #WNE could be #WNE.WY, or whatever is necessary for routing the mail.

(Yes, the address and route to the address *should* be different entities, but with the reality of our packet network we might be better off with h-addresses which accurately reflect routing to a given destination -- until our network improves to the point where routing is truly separated from addressing.)

73, Andy

--

| Andrew Funk, KB7UV |
| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCBS-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |
| --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |

14. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 1994 18:17:24 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410112317.SAA24098@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> >
> > What do you think?
>
> What do you do about the areas that don't have a network that covers the
> whole section and part of it gets fed from different sections. We have
> the problem now. Everyone ASSUMES that #WNE.NE should go the same place
> that #ENE.NE goes. This results in anywhere from several hours delay to
> sometimes several days delay. Traffic for #WNE needs to go to Denver CO
> and be delivered via Cheyenne WY to me. The same goes for western SD and
> some ND traffic.

>
> 73, Gary
>
>

Very good point Gary. I think this is a step in the right direction.
The point is better routing on HF and Reginald Orangethorpe is only part
of the solution.

The ARRL sections are less well known, but that strikes a nerve. Rather
than collecting substate identifiers and trying to have a nation wide
consensus, we need a definitive answer from local experts.

So each ARRL section should submit a list of REAL identifiers and a
matching list of BBS with HF ports able to provide service to each
substate ident.

Then this list could be passed to the HF nets for implementation.

Sorry Greg, I just can't help but pick on R.O. !!!

73 Barry wa0rjt

15. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 1994 20:08:10 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410120108.UAA13966@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Barry Buelow - WA0RJT:

>

> Sorry Greg, I just can't help but pick on R.O. !!!

No Problem. I just started things rolling. I do not have a definite feeling one way or another...the idea is to look at what is possible and then suggest something that meets the needs.

Greg

16. Regional Octothorpe

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Tue, 11 Oct 94 16:33:34 EDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410111633.tn371123@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Bill, N3JIX has suggested the use of ARRL Sections as designators for flood bulletins and such.

Now, as one of many who've been fired from that particular organization, I might seem to have an axe to grind, which would perhaps tend to color the following observation in a less-than-objective manner. Nonetheless:

Don't DO it! Don't even think about using ARRL Sections for anything. Trust me on this, folks; ARRL has had a GREAT deal of heartache with this ill-advised scheme since day one. People have a very hard time understanding it, and for good reason; it neither makes sense nor follows any particular logic. A couple of examples easily spring to mind:

1. San Francisco isn't in the San Francisco Section.
2. Ayer Massachusetts looks on a map to be in the EMA Section. It's not.
3. Ditto for a huge number of towns and cities in Texas. Just TRY to guess which of three possibilities Dallas is in, by looking at a map.

I could tell you of dozens and dozens of phone calls I received from frustrated amateurs who wanted to know what Section they were in. Invariably they were suddenly required to know this information, due to their desire to participate in a particular contest that demanded it. Luckily I had a spiffy little program that broke things down based on -- guess what? -- zip codes that allowed me to tell the hapless caller where he was, Section-wise...

There's lots of reasonable ways to do what we're trying to do. Using ARRL Sections is certainly not one of them.

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA but **NOT** ARRL

17. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: wx3k@w2air.ampr.org (John Zantek)
Date: Wed, 12 Oct 94 06:24:14 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410121324.AA07932@iserver.tcpet.uscg.mil>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Luck spake:

- >1. San Francisco isn't in the San Francisco Section.

San Francisco (city and county of) most certainly is in SF Section. So much for that
neat little program, and no wonder the League was having problems with

Section ID.

Nonwithstanding, let's NOT use ARRL Sections for addressing AX.25 mail.

18. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: jdesmon@mn2.uswc.uswest.com (John Desmond)
Date: Wed, 12 Oct 94 13:38:40 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410121338.AA14143@mn2>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Subject: Re: Regional Octothorpe

>> What do you do about the areas that don't have a network that covers the
>> whole section and part of it gets fed from different sections. We have
>> the problem now. Everyone ASSUMES that #WNE.NE should go the same place
>> that #ENE.NE goes. This results in anywhere from several hours delay to
>> sometimes several days delay. Traffic for #WNE needs to go to Denver CO
>> and be delivered via Cheyenne WY to me. The same goes for western SD and
>> some ND traffic.

>>

>Very good point Gary. I think this is a step in the right direction.

>The point is better routing on HF and Reginald Orangethorpe is only part
>of the solution.

>

>The ARRL sections are less well known, but that strikes a nerve. Rather
>than collecting substate identifiers and trying to have a nation wide
>consensus, we need a definitive answer from local experts.

>

>So each ARRL section should submit a list of REAL identifiers and a
>matching list of BBS with HF ports able to provide service to each
>substate ident.

>

>Then this list could be passed to the HF nets for implementation.

The problem with each ARRL section submitting a list such as this, is
areas that do not have a route such as #WNE within their own state will
probably add a route someday as the network grows. At that point they
will not rely on the Denver route so much and they can route more directly
within the state.

There needs to be a central clearing house for this information it would
seem. Someplace that can react within a few weeks at least and alert the
people that need to know of a new route that is available.

73, John K0TG

John Desmond - K0TG Saint Paul, Minnesota
jdesmon@mn2.uswc.uswest.com
k0tg@amsat.org

19. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Wed, 12 Oct 1994 12:15:15 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941012121219.13991A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 12 Oct 1994 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

> Bill, N3JIX has suggested the use of ARRL Sections as designators for flood
> bulletins and such.

> Don't DO it! Don't even think about using ARRL Sections for anything. Trust
> me on this, folks; ARRL has had a GREAT deal of heartache with this
> ill-advised scheme since day one. People have a very hard time understanding

Ok Luck, what would be an easy way to do the same thing without using
ARRL sections?

BTW: I picked arrl sections because most people know what section they
are in.. I personally don't like the arrl too much either, but I do
understand that they are one of the larger organizations...

Any other ideas will be appreciated...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

20. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Wed, 12 Oct 1994 13:14:38 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410121814.NAA02205@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> >So each ARRL section should submit a list of REAL identifiers and a
> >matching list of BBS with HF ports able to provide service to each
> >substate ident.
> >
> >Then this list could be passed to the HF nets for implementation.
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> The problem with each ARRL section submitting a list such as this, is
> areas that do not have a route such as #WNE within their own state will
> probably add a route someday as the network grows. At that point they
> will not rely on the Denver route so much and they can route more directly
> within the state.
> There needs to be a central clearing house for this information it would
> seem. Someplace that can react within a few weeks at least and alert the
> people that need to know of a new route that is available.
> >
> 73, John K0TG

I agree that a rapid response is desired but where does the central clearing house get valid data? You don't want me telling the authority that IMHO there are only 2 substate identifiers for MN.

The point of my suggestion was that we need a good source of first hand information for each region. I am willing to accept ARRL Sections as a reasonable definition of "region". A designated Sysop in each section should be authorized to provide a list of HF BBS and suggested substate identifiers.

In the case of WNE, let someone in WNE or at least NE decide how they want to receive their mail. If that happens to come from Denver or Cheyenne, I don't care.

Hope that helps clarify my point.

>

21. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: wx3k@w2air.ampr.org (John Zantek)
Date: Wed, 12 Oct 94 12:26:17 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410121926.AA10228@iserver.tcpet.uscg.mil>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
>
>On Wed, 12 Oct 1994 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:
>
>> Bill, N3JIX has suggested the use of ARRL Sections as designators for flood
>> bulletins and such.
>
>> Don't DO it! Don't even think about using ARRL Sections for anything. Trust
>> me on this, folks; ARRL has had a GREAT deal of heartache with this
>> ill-advised scheme since day one. People have a very hard time understanding
>
>Ok Luck, what would be an easy way to do the same thing without using
>ARRL sections?
>
>BTW: I picked arrl sections because most people know what section they
>are in.. I personally don't like the arrl too much either, but I do
>understand that they are one of the larger organizations...
>
>Any other ideas will be appreciated...
>
>73, de Bill, N3JIX
>*****

```
>* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
>* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
>* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
>*****
>
>
>
```

While I can't provide a sensible alternative (is one needed?), I can echo Luck's suggestion to NOT pursue ARRL Sections as an adjunct to AX.25 geographic delivery.

Oregon (the whole state) is one Section. That's a lot of real estate that mostly covers moonrock-country. Yes, I lived in Eastern Oregon.

San Francisco Section covers the entire coast from and including SF, right on up to the Oregon border. Putting a message like K6AA@W6AA.#SF.CA.USA.NOAM and delivering it to the BBS in the city of SF when W6AA is the BBS in Crescent City is pushing the message in the wrong direction in the network.

The juxtaposition of addressing still remains: What's wrong with the system we have NOW? Our problem is not the addressing...it's a network that's grown without a lot of planning. It doesn't matter where you put the message as much as answering "How is it going to get there anyway?"

\$.02 from the SF ASM.

22. Re: Regional Octothorpe

```
From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Wed, 12 Oct 1994 14:29:31 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410121458.A8442-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

On Wed, 12 Oct 1994 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

```
> Don't DO it! Don't even think about using ARRL Sections for anything. Trust
> me on this, folks; ARRL has had a GREAT deal of heartache with this
> ill-advised scheme since day one. People have a very hard time understanding
> it, and for good reason; it neither makes sense nor follows any particular
> logic. A couple of examples easily spring to mind:
>
> 1. San Francisco isn't in the San Francisco Section.
>
> 2. Ayer Massachusetts looks on a map to be in the EMA Section. It's not.
>
> 3. Ditto for a huge number of towns and cities in Texas. Just TRY to guess
> which of three possibilities Dallas is in, by looking at a map.
>
> I could tell you of dozens and dozens of phone calls I received from
> frustrated amateurs who wanted to know what Section they were in. Invariably
> they were suddenly required to know this information, due to their desire to
> participate in a particular contest that demanded it. Luckily I had a spiffy
> little program that broke things down based on -- guess what? -- zip codes
> that allowed me to tell the hapless caller where he was, Section-wise...
>
> There's lots of reasonable ways to do what we're trying to do. Using ARRL
> Sections is certainly not one of them.
```

THANK YOU LUCK!!! That goes along with some of what I am saying. ARRL sections don't really mean a thing. Many places, sections are a full state, or even more than a state. Some are very small pockets of population. I know where SF section is because I used to live there. Most people won't know that Eureka, only 280 miles north of SF is part of the SF section and the city of SF is not.

Why NOT use zip? Zip is already in our fwd files for NTS and we have already been through the problems of figuring out how to split them up for forwarding. There are some zips that are not covered by packet radio, but we already know where those are and would not require any changes.

I'm not saying it's any better than anything else, just that it is already in place and also doable with wildcards, as we do now. Again, some people need to wake up to the fact that not all of 69*** should be

sent to the eastern end of this state, that some of it should be sent to Denver. But, again, that can be worked out, if people will just take the time to listen to some of us when we say that you need to split some of them out and send them different places than seems logical.

Gary

23. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Wed, 12 Oct 1994 14:31:29 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410121400.A8442-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 12 Oct 1994, John Zantek wrote:

> Luck spake:
>
>
> >1. San Francisco isn't in the San Francisco Section.
>
> San Francisco (city and county of) most certainly is in SF Section. So much
> for that
> neat little program, and no wonder the League was having problems with
> Section ID.

I >>ALSO<< stand corrected! It's been too many years since I lived there
(depending on how you look at it :)

> Notwithstanding, let's NOT use ARRL Sections for addressing AX.25 mail.

I ALSO agree!

Gary

24. FBB by MFJ 1276 TNC. - Query!

From: Brian Ellse <briane@iaccess.za>
Date: Thu, 13 Oct 1994 11:53:06 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410131113.A11581-0100000@goofy.iaccess.za>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks for reading this plea for help.

I have just received my MFJ 1276 from the States, and now want to run my
F6FBB BBS thru it. I see it can operate in KISS mode, now what can FBB do?

I am currently operating TSTHOST v1.37 via TFPCX thru a Baycom modem, but
this is not the optimum route. My FBB runs OK in testmode (no TNC connected),
and I would like to get my FBB running ASAP, due to local pressure from the
operators in my area.

I have access to all software at FTP.FUNET.FI, so if possible, any
suggestions regarding other software than the F6FBB software should please
take my remote location into account. I also have BPQ software here, but
haven't got a clue as to how to set it up, seems like I am missing a
documentation file or two.

I will be running one TNC and a telephone modem through FBB.

I will eagerly await any e-mail responses to this query.

Many many Thanks in advance.

Brian - ZR5DTS

25. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 13 Oct 94 9:18:10 CDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410131418.AA101507@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> >Look over this list and....
>
> Can we get rid of the # character? This would make the names
> Internet-friendly and hopefully facilitate an easier migration to true

> Internet addresses in the future. It'd also make it easier for those of us
> running Linux (and other) systems who are trying to move towards using the
> built-in networking code.
>
> Also, are these "Octothorpes" going to be required or optional? It'd be
> nice to have an address that it *the* address....
>
> Jeff, k9ja
>
>
Yes, Jeff, the octothorpe, or some other sort of 'ignore me' character
is needed to permit a standardized header that allows for both
regionalization and experimenting with things such as zip codes, grid
squares, and such. Following the same logic that resulted in the X.3.4
proposal, using regional identifiers that are mnemonic is probably the
best way for us to go in packet addressing at this time.
Should the basic way addressing is handled by the software change, or if
there is a plethora of user front-end software that simplifies/automates
the addressing process that is developed, this can be looked at again.
What we need to bear in mind is what can we do right now that is
compatible with most of whatever else is in use.
Dave

26. regional octothorpes

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Thu, 13 Oct 1994 10:58:07 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410130852002960314@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

N3JIX inquires:

>>Ok Luck, what would be an easy way to do the same thing without using
>>ARRL sections?

Perfectly logical question. And given how long (over a decade now) that
we've been grappling with this, I don't profess to know better than anybody
else.

>>BTW: I picked arrl sections because most people know what section they
>>are in..

My experience at ARRL HQ was that SOME people knew what Section they were in,
but an enormous number do not. And that's because in many many instances,
it's just neither intuitive nor easy to determine. The folks in Wyoming
and Rhode Island might consider themselves lucky; there's only one ARRL
Section in those states. But what about the poor slob trying to route a
message to California? There's pretty close to a dozen Sections in that
State, three in Texas, etc. We should be thinking of a routing scheme that
works well because of it's ease in getting it right the first time, from the
user's point of view, and of course that user could be on either end of the
message's path...

LH

I personally don't like the arrl too much either, but I do
understand that they are one of the larger organizations...

Any other ideas will be appreciated...

27. Regional Octothorpe

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Thu, 13 Oct 1994 10:58:17 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410130852172960431@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

WX3K sez:

San Francisco (city and county of) most certainly is in SF Section. So much
for that neat little program, and no wonder the League was having problems
with
Section ID.

To which KY1T agrees:

Precisely my point. See, the SF *HE's* referring to isn't the same

one *I* was referring to. There are more than one which of course underscores the compelling confusion even further. Thus I'm delighted that WX3K and I agree that we shouldn't use ARRL Sections.

Oh, and one parting shot. Use of the past tense is inappropriate and inaccurate here as "the League" is continuing to experience a great deal of pain with the use of poorly-conceived Sections. And they always will. Just ask the folks in Washington State and Florida who have been fighting the losing battle for some time to ram a bit of fine tuning past the ARRL's behemoth bureaucracy. Sigh...

LH

28. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 13 Oct 1994 11:46:35 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410131155.A1443-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 13 Oct 1994, John Zantek wrote:

> While I can't provide a sensible alternative (is one needed?), I can
> echo Luck's suggestion to NOT pursue ARRL Sections as an
> adjunct to AX.25 geographic delivery.
>
> Oregon (the whole state) is one Section. That's a lot of real
> estate that mostly covers moonrock-country. Yes, I lived
> in Eastern Oregon.
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> including SF, right on up to the Oregon border. Putting a
> message like K6AA@W6AA.#SF.CA.USA.NOAM and
> delivering it to the BBS in the city of SF when W6AA is
> the BBS in Crescent City is pushing the message in
> the wrong direction in the network.
>
> The juxtaposition of addressing still remains: What's wrong
> with the system we have NOW? Our problem is not the
> addressing...it's a network that's grown without a lot of
> planning. It doesn't matter where you put the message as
> much as answering "How is it going to get there anyway?"
>
> \$.02 from the SF ASM.

I have to agree with that. I see nothing wrong with what we have now (but would like to see some rules or specifications regarding regional designators, i.e. how many allowed in a header, how long, etc.). The problem as I see it isn't designators, but getting people to know how to route each one of the regionals at points where they split. For instance, if KD5SL forwards my stuff to NF0N or K0BOY, he needs to change and send it to KT0H in Denver. How do we communicate that information to the people who need to see it. Could we come up with a specific type of message format that could be used to send that information to the network, and even better, have it automatically read into the forwarding files? Something like (only an off the top of the head suggestion) SP ROUTE@ALLUS with nothing in it but a list of regional designators followed by a list of callsigns of the regional hf stations that those designators should go through. It really needs to be automatic, so that those boards that are not properly maintained (there are plenty of them) will not perpetuate the problem by ignoring it.

Gary

29. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Klarsen <klarsen@accca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 08:54:01 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941014081343.3537B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The Regional Octothorpe idea is exactly like the people in Washington DC deciding what a school in Dexter, Idaho should do about school drop-outs. They know exactly NOTHING about the situation but have great ideas on how to fix the problem.

I suggest a different idea. Why don't we let the LOCAL BBS Sysops figure out how to deliver mail in their local area? If they find that #XXXX is a help then push it local and use it.

I am a router for the packet Network. When I get mail for places west of Las Cruces, NM I send it to wb7t1s in Tucson. He knows how to make it go further west or north. I don't know how Glenn does it and it's not important to me. It Works.

Going East is interesting. I send mail going east to Remi f5cnb near Huston, TX via the ham wormhole in the internet. He forwards the stuff by internet to some places and by ham radio and microwave links in Texas. Again I don't know HOW Remi does it. But he does do it. It works.

I have a complete knowledge of routes via packet radio in the NM and far west Texas areas. So do all the other bbs sysops in this area. If a message appears anywhere in this area to a bbs outside this area it comes to me or kb5vww Chuck who is a new 14.111 sysop in Northern NM.

There needs to be bbs routers in every state and every large city within the state. A STATE organization will make sure every router in the state knows how to forward mail within the state.

All the routers need to get along. They need to talk and keep up with the condition of the bbs network in their area. Since the packet or internet or whatever networks do not follow state borders we should let guys outside our state be part of our state system if it MAKES SENSE to do it.

A national or god forbid international plan is doomed from the very beginning because it assumes conditions are a certain way in the large areas. They are not. We need a national plan to get mail around the US and Canada. The international plan should exist, but from our point of view this international "plan" consists of information saying "send mail for OUTSIDE the US and Canada to a International Router".

I don't know who all the International Routers are and it is not important to me UNLESS I forward to one of those. My solution to the international problem is to send it all to Remi f6cnb. He knows how to get it out. I don't.

So if we want something that is useful let's publish a list of all the packet bbs sysops that route for cities, states, and our country. This list will change, if not daily, at least every week. So the list needs to be kept current like the ampr.org list of all tcp/ip hams worldwide.

73 de karl k5di@k5di

30. Re: FBB by MFJ 1276 TNC. - Query!

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 09:03:12 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941014085617.3537C-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 13 Oct 1994, Brian Ellse wrote:

> Thanks for reading this plea for help.
>
> I have just received my MFJ 1276 from the States, and now want to run my
> F6FBB BBS thru it. I see it can operate in KISS mode, now what can FBB do?
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> this is not the optimum route. My FBB runs OK in testmode (no TNC connected),
> and I would like to get my FBB running ASAP, due to local pressure from the
> operators in my area.
>
> I have access to all software at FTP.FUNET.FI, so if possible, any
> suggestions regarding other software than the F6FBB software should please
> take my remote location into account. I also have BPQ software here, but
> haven't got a clue as to how to set it up, seems like I am missing a
> documentation file or two.
>
> I will be running one TNC and a telephone modem through FBB.
>
> I will eagerly await any e-mail responses to this query.
>
> Many many Thanks in advance.
>
> Brian - ZR5DTS
>

Brian you should have the f5fbb software version 5.15 and 5.15b and 5.15c so you can set up the latest version as I have. This software has all you need to configure the file ports.sys which is in your fbb\system directory. You configure it in ports.sys to find a tnc on com number 1 or 2 whichever you will use. Refer to the manual for details.

The telephone port will be on the other com port and you must configure it in ports.sys and also your forward.sys files. You do not need the g8bpq switch software yet. If you add more radio ports to your system then the BPQ switch is the best way to do it.

-karl k5di@k5di

31. Re: [BBSSIG:74] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson)
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 14:02:49 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410141802.AA19262@chaos.NIS.chaos>
Rendered body type: text/plain

My mailer said Klarsen said this:

>
> The Regional Octothorpe idea is exactly like the people in
> Washington DC deciding what a school in Dexter, Idaho should do about
> school drop-outs. They know exactly NOTHING about the situation but have
> great ideas on how to fix the problem.
>
> I suggest a differant idea. Why don't we let the LOCAL BBS Sysops
> figure out how to deliver mail in their local area? If they find that
> #XXXX is a help then push it local and use it.

This is exactly how I see it too. I'm in Michigan and as far as I'm concerned the people in Michigan are the only ones who know Michigan and there isn't a single person on this group outside of Michigan that can dictate whats done in this state. Michigan is divided up into 5 sections, and the reason why and the boundaries is based on various variables that were taken into consideration. This was done by the official packet coordinating body for the state, MIPAC, Inc (MICHIGAN PAcKet Council). Theres no way anyone outside of this state knows Michigan better than us and it should be our judgement as to the best way to set it up. Sure anybody is open to new ideas, but I disagree with trying to have a group decide how everyone needs to set their state up. Today we have 5 sections, tomorrow there may be a need to break it up even more. All anyone outside of Michigan needs to know is to send mail to Michigan and it's up to the state to send it to it's destination. For people complaining about getting mail for the other side of the state when they don't have connectivity, how anyone even supposed to know this? That's the job of a BBS sysop to inform the people forwarding to you what you can handle. Adding another field in your address isn't going to help any, the state is still there and if someone needed to reach a state they'd send it to the same place as they always have. Tell people that forward to you not to send mail to you that you can't handle. They may need to know how your state is divided up and have that info on their system, but only the stations that forward to you need this, we in Michigan don't need to know how another state is divided up for forwarding purposes.

Why not just keep track of what each state decides to do and have all of that listed. We can give everyone the exact boundaries for how Michigan is divided up so anyone with road map will know what section someone is in. Give that information out and have BBS's keep it for their users. If someone needs to send a bulletin here, it'll be something like
SB <TO>@<SOME_DESIGNATOR>.#SEMI.MI.USA.NOAM.

How many states do have packet coordinating groups to help with these problems. We have one here, may not be the most active, but one does exist to deal with exactly what's being discussed here. IT seems that most states I talk to have repeater councils coordinate frequencies, or nobody does.

--

Ron N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@n8fow.ampr.org
Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
aa011@detroit.freenet.org

32. Re: regional octothorpes

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 16:06:52 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941014160428.13715A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 13 Oct 1994 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

> N3JIX inquires:
>
> >>Ok Luck, what would be an easy way to do the same thing without using
> >>ARRL sections?
>
> Perfectly logical question. And given how long (over a decade now) that
> we've been grappling with this, I don't profess to know better than anybody
> else.

Here's an idea: Each state has an East side, and a west side... Why not
divide each state into two pieces, and work from there...

No ARRL sections, just a simple geographic division. People in the
middle will decide which side they would like to be on...

This is another suggestion for people to ponder about...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****  
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *  
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *  
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *                      *  
*****
```

33. Re: [BBSSIG:74] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 16:17:45 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941014161005.13715B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 14 Oct 1994, Klarsen wrote:

> I suggest a differant idea. Why don't we let the LOCAL BBS Sysops
> figure out how to deliver mail in their local area? If they find that
> #XXXX is a help then push it local and use it.

Good idea... Some of us here in PA are doing that now... Basically,
when you get a message in, you have to figure out who it goes to next.

Since we are running one BBS as a forwarding hub, we all send mail that
came into the "chain" to him, and let his bbs deal with it. Now, If I
get a message from the HUB that isn't meant for me, I have the bbs check
to see if it needs to be sent out of our "chain" to the other stations I
forward with, or it puts it on hold until I check it out personally.

East bound stuff is sent from the hub directly to another hub of another
group of people to the east of us...

West bound stuff is sent to my friend who is the furthest west in the "chain"
and he fowards via HF, or via a 2 meter node. What mail goes to whom,
via what port is his "problem."

North and sounth stuff are forwarded from the hub to stations to the
north and the south, and they each take care of it...

So simple put, 5 stations take care of the routing problems for 8 PBBS
total... It's all controled via the hub station... AS for international
mail, our Hub is the MID ATL satgate... SO that helps alot too...

Basically speaking, it works well...

Sounds like a good idea...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****  
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *  
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *  
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *                      *  
*****
```

34. Re: [BBSSIG:77] Re: regional octothorpes

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 94 13:20:13 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410141320.ZM28928@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Oct 14, 3:08pm, William L. Barnes wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:77] Re: regional octothorpes
>
>
> On Thu, 13 Oct 1994 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:
>
> > N3JIX inquires:
> >
> > >>Ok Luck, what would be an easy way to do the same thing without using
> > >>ARRL sections?
> >
> > Perfectly logical question. And given how long (over a decade now) that
> > we've been grappling with this, I don't profess to know better than anybody
> > else.
>
> Here's an idea: Each state has an East side, and a west side... Why not
> divide each state into two pieces, and work from there...
>
> No ARRL sections, just a simple geographic division. People in the
> middle will decide which side they would like to be on...
>
> This is another suggestion for people to ponder about...

This will not work very well for Idaho ...

Nor will it work for Oregon (there are hardly any PEOPLE over on the
east side, much less HAMS) which divides naturally into N and S
population centers.

Then there is California, which doesn't divide very well E-W,
and Texas, and ...

Seems that over the past ten years we have evolved a system that works
fairly well: "Each region does what works, and let's folks at the
boundary know what it did."

In my own case, roughly half my users are in Washington, and half
are in Oregon. The users in Washington have no problem with the
fact that their email address has ".OR." in it ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

35. Re: [BBSSIG:76] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 15:28:57 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410142028.PAA01729@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Ron Atkinson:
> , but I disagree with trying to have a group
> decide how everyone needs to set their state up.

Where did this come from ? I have not read one message that said anything
about any national or world group doing this ?

I think everyone agrees that the regionl ids are setup by the state.

The purpose of the message I posted showing them was:

1. Look at how some states are possibly not very well organizaed ?
2. Is there a common method being used by some states ?
3. Start some conversation on flooding messages to areas

- a. should we just stick with states as the LCD (lowest common denom)
 - b. can we use regional ids if we have them published from every so often.
4. It allow folks to see and possibyl define for others what there state is doing.

I would suggest that the regional IDs in most states have not changed very much in the last 3-5 years. Yes - one is added so often or changed, but the list itself satys pretty stable.

We seem to have gotten off on some tangent that this is a discussion on national coordniation. NO WAY! BBS systems, if they are lucky have some form of communications on a state level to help dessiminate information and arrange to have traffic passed effecently.

- > Why not just keep track of what each state decides to do and have all of that listed. We can give everyone the exact boundaries for how Michigan
- > is divided up so anyone with road map will know what section someone
- > is in. Give that information out and have BBS's keep it for their users.

Yes- the purpose of the posting. But I have not seen any one send back what there stae is yet based on the first posted message.

- > How many states do have packet coordinating groups to help with these
- > problems. We have one here, may not be the most active, but one does
- > exist to deal with exactly what's being discussed here. IT seems that
- > most states I talk to have repeater councils coordinate frequencies,
- > or nobody does.

In some states, the state has so few BBS in it that I believe they just do it as an aside and don't need any formal bodies. Texas has a BBS group under the TPRS. I believe that several of tghe larger states than have well formed packet groups do this. Some folks are working on repeater coordnation groups, but I don't think this is the norm. Most repeater groups relly don't care much abot digital operations, espieccally since it is done mostly on simplex channles. The interest in digital operations now is becuase we are wanting to use more duplex channles in our operations.

Cheers - Greg

36. Re: KPC9612

From: "Jay Townsend" <jayt@comtch.iew.com>
 Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 13:46:58 -0700 (PDT)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <m0qvtWk-000AJWC@comtch.iew.com>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Do you happen to have available your BPQ settings for these Hank? I just picked up one of these and wouldn't mind some "well" tested pointers. If its easier fire it to SJN and I'll get it on CLOVER.

73

--

Jay Townsend, Ws7i <jayt@comtch.iew.com >

37. Re: [BBSSIG:81] Re: KPC9612

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
 Date: Fri, 14 Oct 94 14:01:34 PDT
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <9410141401.ZM12788@hanko>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Oct 14, 3:55pm, Jay Townsend wrote:

- > Subject: [BBSSIG:81] Re: KPC9612
- > Do you happen to have available your BPQ settings for these Hank? I just
- > picked up one of these and wouldn't mind some "well" tested pointers. If its
- > easier fire it to SJN and I'll get it on CLOVER.
- >
- > 73
- > --
- > Jay Townsend, Ws7i <jayt@comtch.iew.com >
- >
- >-- End of excerpt from Jay Townsend

Best bet is to remind me via packet ...
 I'll just send my bpqcfg.txt to you.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

38. RE: [BBSSIG:76] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 16:52:38 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941014165238.20405ca3@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I think Karl and Ron are correct and onto something. Lets ask TAPR to compile, based on our input a list of packet coordination bodies, with contact persons, for each state. Maybe this is already available and I have missed it.

Carl WA0CQG

39. Re: [BBSSIG:83] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 94 15:02:15 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410141502.ZM18721@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Oct 14, 4:56pm, ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:83] Re: Regional Octothorpe
> I think Karl and Ron are correct and onto something. Lets ask TAPR to compile, based on our input a list of packet coordination bodies, with contact persons,
> for each state. Maybe this is already available and I have missed it.
>
> Carl WA0CQG
>-- End of excerpt from ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM

Oregon Packet Experimenters Network

Jim, KA7AGH, president:

KA7AGH @ KA7AGH.ØR.USA.NOAM

There are several regional organizations as well, but the charter of O.P.E.N. is to act as forum for state- and region-wide issues.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

40. RE: Mod for Standard C-158a

From: David Hambrick <hambri14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu>
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 16:03:42 -600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SCO.3.90.941014160039.12960A-100000@odi.cwc.whecn.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am looking for any mods that are available for the Standard C-158A 2M HT. If anyone has any information on this radio it would be appreciated.

Thanks in advance.....Dave - KB7EUN

Internet: hambri14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu
Packet: KB7EUN@KD7BN.WY.USA.NOAM

41. Re: [BBSSIG:83] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 17:39:24 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410142239.RAA13562@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Carl, I posted a list of packet organization for contact the other day.

I'll post it here and maybe get some more input. I would think that many of these groups take care of some area of BBS, but I would also think that there is another list to be generated of BBS related groups or contacts.

Greg

According to ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM:

>
> I think Karl and Ron are correct and onto something. Lets ask TAPR to compile, based on our input a
list of packet coordination bodies, with contact persons,
> for each state. Maybe this is already available and I have missed it.
>
> Carl WA0CQG
>

Tucson Amateur Packet Radio
8987-309 E Tanque Verde Rd #337 * Tucson, Az * 85749-9399 * 817-383-0000

October 2nd, 1994

Re: Help Update the Regional/Local Packet Listing

TAPR is working on trying to generate an accurate list of regional and local packet groups.

Many of the lists we have seen published in the last few years have been woefully out of date. TAPR feels that an accurate listing for regional/local packet groups is necessary to help exchange information and allow TAPR to tell people how to contact their regional/local groups.

Please review the information below and provide us with any changes necessary to reflect your group's current status. If you have information on one or more of the groups, please make corrections and submit back to us. In this way, we hope to update this list and add any new groups that might not be on the list.

You can provide changes to the list, by mail (address above), fax (817) 566-2544, phone (817) 383-0000 or Internet tapr@tapr.org

We look forward to your feedback.

Cheers,
Greg Jones, WD5IVD
President, Tucson Amateur Packet Radio

This file is CSV format (Comma Separated Values). Most Spreadsheet programs will except this format. Be sure to indicate that the text delimiter is a comma and not a tab, since many program default to a tab. Each line is a complete record. Make sure that when you save this to a file, you do not drop the formatting, or you will need to rrecombine lines.

Group Name,Address 1,Address 2,City,Region,Postal Code,Country,Work,Fax,Internet,Newsletter
Mt Ascutney Amateur Packet Radio Association,c/o Carl Breuning N1CB,54 Myrtle St,Newport,NH,3773,,,,,
New England Packet Radio Association (NEPRA),PO Box 208,,East Kingston,NH,3827,,,,,NEPRA PacketEar
Connecticut Digital Radio Association (CONNECT),c/o Tom Hogerty KC1J,83 Harold
Rd,Farmington,CT,6032,,,,,
American Radio Relay League (ARRL),225 Main St,,Newington,CT,6111,,,INFO@ARRL.ORG,Gateway
Radio Amateur Telecommunications Society (RATS),c/o J Gordon Beattie Jr N2DSY,206 North Vivyen
St,Bergenfield,NJ,7621,,,,,
Cherryville Repeater Association,Box 308,,Quakertown,NJ,8868,,,,,
Packeteers of Long Island (POLI),c/o Alex Mendelsohn AI2Q,92 Hathaway Av,Elmont,NY,11003,,,,,The POLI
Parrot
Mt Beacon Amateur Radio Club,PO Box 841,,Wappingers Falls,NY,12590,,,,,
Rochester Packet Group,c/o Fred Cupp W2DUC,27 Crescent Rd,Fairport,NY,14450,,,,,
Pennsylvania Packet Association (PaPA),c/o Bryan Simanic WA3UFN,9 Wild Cherry Dr,DuBois,PA,15801,,,,,
Radio Amateur Satellite Corp (AMSAT),PO Box 27,,Washington,DC,20044,,,,,AMSAT Journal

Mid-Atlantic Packet Radio Club,c/o Tom Clark W3IWI,6388 Guilford Rd,Clarksville,MD,21029,,,,,
Wake Digital Communications Group (WDCG),c/o Randy Ray WA5SZL,9401 Taurus Ct,Raleigh,NC,27612,,,,,
South Carolina Amateur Radio Digital Society (SCARDS),PO Box 1281,,Columbia,SC,29202,,,,,SCARDS
Newsletter
Southern Amateur Packet Society (SAPS),c/o Wayne Harrell WD4LYV,Rt 1 Box 368,Sycamore,GA,31790,,,,,
Florida Amateur Digital Communications Association (FADCA),812 Childers
Loop,,Brandon,FL,33511,,,,,FADCA>Beacon
Mississippi Amateur Radio Digital Association (MARDa),c/o Patrick J Fagan WA5DYV,2412 E Birch
Dr,Gulfport,MS,39503,,,,,
Ohio Packet Enthusiasts Club (OPAC),c/o Bob Ball WB8WGA,830 Riva Ridge Blvd,Gahanna,OH,43230,,,,,
Cincinnati Amateur Packet Radio Experimenters Society (CAPRES),c/o John Schroer IV KA8GRH,948 Halesworth
Dr,Forest Park,OH,45240,,,,,
Eastern Packet Radio of Michigan (EPROM),c/o Jay Nugent WB8TKL,3081 Braeburn Cir,Ann Arbor,MI,48104,,,,,
Western Michigan Packet Radio Association (WMPRA),PO Box 4612,,Muskegon,MI ,49444,,,,,
Central Iowa Technical Society (CITS),c/o Ralph Wallio W0RPK,1250 Hwy G24,Indianapolis,IA,50125,,,,,
Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association (WAPRA),PO Box 1215,,Fond Du Lac,WI,54935,,,,,Badger State
Smoke Signals
TwinsLAN Amateur Radio Club,c/o Kermit Kramer W0RFD,1121 Xerxes Av S,Minneapolis,MN,55405,,,,,The
TwinsLAN Beacon
Packet Radio Organization of Montana (PROM),c/o Glenda Allen KE7TB,165 Conifer Rd,Libby,MT,59923,,,,,
Chicago Amateur Packet Radio Association (CAPRA),PO Box 8251,,Rolling Meadows,IL,60008,,,,,The CAPRA
Beacon
St Louis Area Packet Radio (SLAPR),9926 Lewis & Clark,,St Louis,MO,63136,,,,,
Utah Packet Radio Association (UPRA),c/o Bart Van Allen KA7ZFD,11883 S Kinney
Cir,Riverton,UT,84065,,,,,RMPRA>Packet
Arizona Packet Radio Association,8402 E Angus Dr,,Scottsdale,AZ,85251,,,,,
Southern California Digital Communications Council (SCDCC),PO Box 4357,,Chatsworth,CA,91313,,,,,The
I-Frame
Los Angeles Area Packet Group (LAPG),PO Box 6026,,Mission Hills,CA,91345,,,,,
San Diego Packet Radio Association (SANDPAC),c/o Barry Gershenfeld,5085 Arroyo Lindo Av,San
Diego,CA,92117,,,,,San Diego Packet Radio Association Newsletter
San Diego Packet Group (SDPG),c/o Mike Brock WB6HHV,10230 Mayer Cir,San Diego,CA,92126,,,,,
Pacific Packet Radio Society (PPRS),PO Box 51562,,Palo Alto,CA,94303,,,,,
Northern California Packet Association (NCPA),6608B Alhambra Ave,Suite 111,Martinez,CA,94553,,,,,NCPA
Download
Oregon Digital Network Coordination Council (ODNCC),7860 SW 69th Av.,Portland,OR,97223,,,,,
Northwest Amateur Packet Radio Association (NAPRA),c/o John Gates N7BTI,750 Northstream
Ln,Edmonds,WA,98020,,,,,Zero Retries
Amateur Packet Alaska (APA),AX.25 Communications Trail,,Ester,AK,99725,,,,,
Amateur Radio Research and Development Corp (AMRAD),PO Box 6148,,McLean,VA,22106-6148,,,,,AMRAD
Newsletter
Georgia Radio Amateur Packet Enthusiast Society (GRAPES),PO Box
871,,Alpharetta,GA,30239-0871,,,,,Grapevine
Central Illinois Packet Radio User Society (CIPRUS),c/o Larry Keeran K9ORP,RR 1 Box
99B,Downs,IL,61736-9717,,,,,
Texas Packet Radio Society (TPRS),PO Box 50238,,Denton,TX,76206-0238,,,,,The TPRS Quarterly Report
Rocky Mountain Packet Radio Association (RMPRA),c/o Bill Flynn AI0C,286 S Nome
St,Aurora,CO,80012-1212,,,,,RMPRA>Packet
Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Corporation (TAPR),8987-309 E. Tanque Verde Rd
#337,,Tucson,AZ,85749-9399,,,,,TAPR@TAPR.ORG,Packet Status Register
Sydney Amateur Digital Communications Group (SADCG),PO Box 231,,French's
Forest,NSW,2086,Australia,,,,,The Australian Packeteer
Melbourne Packet Radio Group (MPRG),c/o David Furst VK3YDF,11 Church St,Hawthorn,Vic,3122,Australia,,,
Vancouver Amateur Digital Communications Group (VADCG),9531 Odlin Rd,,Richmond,BC,V6X 1E1,Canada,,,,,The
Packet
Hamilton and Area Packet Network (HAPN),Box 4466,Station D,Hamilton,ON,L8V 4S7,Canada,,,,,
HEX 9 Group,PO Box 151,,Orilla,ON,L3V 6J3,Canada,,,,,
Bavarian Amateur Packet Radio Group (BAPR),c/o Thomas Kieselbach DL2MDE,Narzissenweg 10,8031
Wessling,,,Federal Republic of Germany,,,,,
NORD><LINK,c/o Hans Georg Giese DF2AU,Hinter dem Berge 5,D-3300 Braunschweig,,,Federal Republic of
Germany,,,,,
Amateur Radio and Computer Club (AMRAC),9 Hollydene Villas,Southampton Rd,Hythe,Southampton,S04
5HU,Great Britain,,,,,
Haifa Amateur Group For Digital Communications,PO Box 7238,,Haifa 31071,,,Israel,,,,,
Oimo Club,c/o PRUG,PO Box 66,Tamagawa,Setagaya,Tokyo 158,Japan,,,,,
Packet Radio User's Group (PRUG),PO Box 66,,Tamagawa,Setagaya,Tokyo 158,Japan,,,,,
Connect International ,Radio Society of Great Britain (R5GB),Lambda House,Cranborne Road,Potters Bar
Herts,EN6 3JE,UK,,,,,Radio Communication
Midlands AX.25 Packet Radio Users Group (Maxpak),c/o David Bentley G4RVK,10 Churnet
Grove,Perton,Wolverhampton,,UK,,,,,Digicom
British Amateur Radio Teleprinter Group (BARTG),Pat & John Beedie GW6MOJ & GW6MOK,Ffynnonlas
Salem,Llandeilo,Dyfed,SA19 7NP,Wales,,,,,Datacom

--- END

42. Re: [BBSSIG:83] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 16:57:42 -0600 (MDT)

To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410141640.A1592-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 14 Oct 1994 ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM wrote:

> I think Karl and Ron are correct and onto something. Lets ask TAPR to compile, based on our input a list of packet coordination bodies, with contact persons.
> for each state. Maybe this is already available and I have missed it.

But not all states have any coordination, or even a packet body. That's the point...there isn't even a path across the state, much less coordination or communications. Traffic is handled from east to west by sending it on hf to another state. The same goes for South Dakota. West->east SD traffic goes through my hf port to KS, then to eastern NE, then to eastern SD, then west as far as it needs.

Gary

43. Re: [BBSSIG:80] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson)
Date: Fri, 14 Oct 1994 19:41:22 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410142341.AA20008@chaos.NIS.chaos>
Rendered body type: text/plain

My mailer said Greg Jones said this:

>
> We seem to have gotten off on some tangent that this is a discussion on
> national coordniation. NO WAY! BBS systems, if they are lucky have some

Thanks Greg. I figured it was exactly what you said, but people start reading, start coming up with ideas, start making proposals for changes, then the next thing you know it's all being changed on ya. I wanted to avoid this from happening.

I saved the list that you put out, but I really didn't go over it too much since I figured it was the states decision on how to do it. It proably would be nice to try to come up with a common way of doing it among all states though. Some people really think of wacky names for things and it may make sense locally but not nationally.

> Yes- the purpose of the posting. But I have not seen any one send back what
> there stae is yet based on the first posted message.

I sent the list that you put out (packet groups) to the MIPAC president. That list definitely is really out of date. If you want I can ask him to send you the geographical boundaries for how we divided up Michigan. Keep that information with Michigan and then anybody can see where to send mail to.

--

Ron N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@n8fow.ampr.org
Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
aa011@detroit.freenet.org

44. Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 01:39:30 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410131813503237163@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Well Gary's got a good point. Given that zip codes have worked very nicely for the NTS community, I'd be willing to acknowledge that it's an excellent method to consider.

I happen to like the Rose method of using telephone area codes and exchanges as well.

Both are easily within the grasp of those sending messages. Both are better than what we have now, a hodgepodge that nobody seems inclined to recommend as a standard.

LH

45. Re: [BBSSIG:77] Re: regional octothorpes

From: jbrooks@INS.INFONET.NET
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 13:08:41 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <00985FB6.57381DBD.33@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Here's an idea: Each state has an East side, and a west side... Why not
> divide each state into two pieces, and work from there...
>
> No ARRL sections, just a simple geographic division. People in the
> middle will decide which side they would like to be on...
>
> This is another suggestion for people to ponder about...
>
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX
> *****
> * Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
> * Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
> * Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
> *****
>

I strongly suspect many states already do that. Another problem: at least in Kansas, and I'm sure elsewhere as well, the state packet group has met and (for lack of a better word) decreed what the regional designator will be. Lets leave well enough alone. What is in place works.

Jim

46. Re: [BBSSIG:90] Re: regional octothorpes

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 14:40:25 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410151940.0AA19893@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to jbrooks@INS.INFONET.NET:

> I strongly suspect many states already do that. Another problem: at least
> in Kansas, and I'm sure elsewhere as well, the state packet group has met
> and (for lack of a better word) decreed what the regional designator will
> be. Lets leave well enough alone. What is in place works.
>
> Jim
>

I think this is the case for most places. The regional ids exist.

Let now find out:

1. How and who generated the various states regional ids
2. Generate an accurate snap-shot of what we have now
3. Be able to distribute this information to at least other BBS operators

What I would like to see happen is get the list assembled - if it is out of date in a year - well so be it, but I think we would all like to see who is doing what and how.

How will BBS operators use this - who knows ? Let generate it and see how they use it. That is the secret to information. Lots not discuss what the future is...lets do a little information gathering.

Also - we need to generate a list of regional BBS or packet groups that are defining things, so that when consensus needs to be gathered everyone can be contacted. Until we can get information sharing to the folks that actually determine what happens in some lose form - then nothing definite will happen.

So here is the regional ids again..

Now here is a proposal....if the words are not good enough....it is pretty simple to generate a map that shows the area that are already defined. We could do this several ways. Fax it to me or Dave. Dave (817) 295-6232 Greg (512) 794-5888 or do something else. I can generate a EPS file very fast and then we can get someone to do a ASCII based off that.

It would probably be best to find a state map that has counties so that it is easier to track where the lines are.

We are planning a mailing to all BBS operators in the US before the end of the year, so this map could be distributed then.

greg

ADAK#AK
SAK#AK

BHM#AL
CENAL#AL
FHP#AL
HSV#AL
MOBAL#AL
NOAL#AL
SEAL#AL

CENAR#AR
ECENAR#AR
NEAR#AR
NWAR#AR
SEAR#AR
SWAR#AR

APL#AZ
NCAZ#AZ

CENCA#CA
NOCAL#CA
SBRB#CA
SOCA#CA

NECO#CO
NWC0#CO
SECO#CO

APL#DE
CDE#DE
NDE#DE

ARCFL#FL
AVO#FL
BCR#FL
BCRFL#FL
CEWFL#FL
CITFL#FL
CLWFL#FL
COA#FL
COCOA#FL
DABFL#FL
DUNFL#FL
EYWFL#FL
FMY#FL
GNVFL#FL
HIALEAH#FL
HWDFL#FL
JAXFL#FL
JAXFL#FL
KLRG#FL
LAKE#FL
LEO#FL
LKLFL#FL
MIADX#FL
MIAFL#FL
MIAMI#FL
MLBFL#FL
NEFL#FL
NFL#FL
OCFFL#FL
OKLAN#FL
ORLFL#FL
PASFL#FL
PFNFL#FL
PMPFL#FL
PNSFL#FL
PSJ#FL
RCCFL#FL
SRQ#FL
SRQFL#FL
STC#FL

STU#FL
SUNFL#FL
SWFL#FL
TAV#FL
TLH#FL
TPA#FL
VENFL#FL
VRBFL#FL
WPBFL#FL

AGS#GA
ATL#GA
ATLHF#GA
CVL#GA
DLT#GA
ETADS#GA
MAR#GA
NGA#GA
NOGA#GA
NTSGA#GA
SAV#GA
SEGA#GA
SSI#GA
STK#GA
SWGA#GA
VLD#GA
WAL#GA
WCGL#GA

CIA#IA
ECIA#IA
KA0STB#IA
NWIA#IA
SEIA#IA
SWIA#IA
WCIA#IA

INW#ID
LWS#ID
MICBBS#ID

CEN0IS#IL
CIL#IL
ECIL#IL
HUB#IL
NCIL#IL
NEIL#IL
NWIL#IL
SEIL#IL
SIL#IL
WCENIL#IL
WCIL#IL

CEIN#IN
CIN#IN
N0IN#IN
NCIN#IN
NEIN#IN
NIN#IN
NOIN#IN
NWIN#IN
SIN#IN

CLBY#KS
KC#KS
NCKS#KS
NEKS#KS
NKS#KS
NWKS#KS
SCKS#KS
WCKS#KS

MIDKY#KY
NCKY#KY
NEKY#KY
NWKY#KY
SCKY#KY
SEKY#KY
WKY#KY

BTR#LA
BTRLA#LA
CENLA#LA
LFT#LA
LFTLA#LA
METLA#LA
NELA#LA
NOLA#LA
NwLA#LA
SELA#LA

EMA#MA
WMA#MA

SOMD#MD

NEMI#MI
NwMI#MI
SEMI#MI
SWMI#MI
UPMI#MI

CMN#MN
ECMN#MN
MSP#MN
NCMN#MN
NEMN#MN
NOMN#MN
ROSO#MN
SCMN#MN
ST#MN
STP#MN
WCMN#MN

BRNSN#MO
CEMO#MO
CMO#MO
NCMO#MO
NwMO#MO
SCMO#MO
SEMO#MO
STC#MO
STL#MO
SWMO#MO
WCMO#MO

BIL#MT
GTF#MT
HLN#MT
MSO#MT
SEMT#MT

AVL#NC
BUY#NC
CLT1#NC
DUR#NC
EASTNC#NC
GAS#NC
GSO#NC
HKY#NC
HKY1#NC
ILM#NC
INT#NC
LBT#NC
MEB#NC
RTP#NC
RTP#NC

DL#ND
GFK#ND
JAM#ND
MOT#ND
PAR#ND
RL#ND
SEND#ND

ASHBY#NE
ENE#NE

NENE#NE
SCNE#NE
SENE#NE
WNE#NE

NNH#NH
SCNH#NH

NNJ#NJ
SNJ#NJ

NENEV#NV
NONEV#NV
S0NV#NV
SONEV#NV

CNY#NY
ENY#NY
NENY#NY
NLI#NY
NNY#NY
NYC#NY
WNY#NY

CIN#OH
CMH#OH
DAY#OH
EOH#OH
NCOH#OH
NEOH#OH
NOH#OH
NWOH#OH
SEOH#OH
SWOH#OH
TOL#OH

NCOK#OK
NEOK#OK
OKC#OK
SCOK#OK
SWOK#OK

DALLAS#OR
DXMBO#OR
EUGEN#OR
MURPH#OR
NEOR#OR
RBG#OR
RN7NTS#OR
SALEM#OR
SEOR#OR
SWOR#OR

CPA#PA
EPA#PA
NCPA#PA
NPA#PA
NWP#PA
PHL#PA
SCPA#PA
SEPA#PA
SWPA#PA
WPA#PA

SORI#RI

BEL#SC
CHS#SC
COL#SC
GRD#SC
INM#SC
LANC#SC
MYB#SC
SUM#SC
UOT#SC
WCOL#SC

CESD#SD
NESD#SD

NWSD#SD
SESD#SD
WSD#SD

CHA#TN
METN#TN
MIDTN#TN
NETN#TN
WESTN#TN

AUS#TX Austin Area
CENTX#TX Central Texas
DFW#TX Dallas/Fort Worth Area
ETX#TX East Texas
GTN#TX ???
NTX#TX North Texas
SAT#TX San Antonio
SETX#TX South East Texas (Houston)
STX#TX South Texas (Valley)
TPL#TX Temple Texas ?
WTX#TX West Texas

CDC#UT
CEUT#UT
SLC#UT
SOUT#UT

CVA#VA
DAN#VA
ECVA#VA
HPTN#VA
NOVA#VA
TIDE#VA
TRI#VA

NEVT#VT
NWVT#VT

APLINK#WA
EWA#WA
NWA#WA
SEA#WA
SEWA#WA
SPOKN#WA
VANC#WA
WWA#WA

CFL#WI
CWI#WI
DUR#WI
ECWI#WI
JNSVL#WI
MKE#WI
NOWI#WI
NWI#WI
SCWI#WI
SEWI#WI
TMH#WI
WWI#WI

NEWV#WV
NWV#WV
NWWY#WY
RAWL#WY
SEWY#WY
SOWY#WY

47. Re: [BBSSIG:87] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 13:58:56 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941015135501.1451A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 14 Oct 1994, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>
>
> On Fri, 14 Oct 1994 ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM wrote:

>
> > I think Karl and Ron are correct and onto something. Lets ask TAPR to compile, based on our input a
list of packet coordination bodies, with contact persons,
> > for each state. Maybe this is already available and I have missed it.
>
> But not all states have any coordination, or even a packet body. That's
> the point...there isn't even a path across the state, much less
> coordination or communications. Traffic is handled from east to west by
> sending it on hf to another state. The same goes for South Dakota.
> West->east SD traffic goes through my hf port to KS, then to eastern NE,
> then to eastern SD, then west as far as it needs.
>
> Gary
>
>

Good point Gary. I see that Hank, as usual has come forth with his information well in hand. But you I think are a packet bbs and should be able to find out how mail gets into and out of your AREA. If not you then find out who is routing for your area and send him/her in as the person to receive mail about the tapr list.

-karl

48. Re: [BBSSIG:92] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 14:30:52 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941015141336.1451C-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

OK looked at the tapr list of packet groups and it is a bit short. And it does not do what I see as important. First, the list should be made to send over the Packet BBS Network. So lets make the file a simple 80 wide flat ascii file.

This is a list of Routers that control the flow of BBS mail so the list can contain an address and telephone number but it MUST contain a valid Packet BBS address. I want to be able to send mail to every one of the hams listed as the state Router. For this reason EVERYONE LISTED SHALL BE A BBS SYSOP OR BE KNOWN ON A BBS AS A REGULAR USER.

So here is my listing:

AREA: New Mexico and El Paso, TX

Router #1: Karl Larsen, K5DI Box 74, Mesilla Park, NM 88047. Tel (505) 524-3303. K5DI@K5DI.NM.USA.NAOM. Internet klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu

Router #2: KB5VWV on the 14.111 MHZ HF net. KB5VWV@KB5VWV.NM.USA.NOAM

So I think that a listing that simple can put the right bbs sysop/users together so they can work out the problems as they come up.

-karl

49. MFJ and FBB - Thank you.....

From: briane@iaccess.za (Brian Ellse)
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 23:03:34 -0400
To: EDSAD0W@ids.net
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0qwGZt-0000azC@goofy.iaccess.za>
Rendered body type: text/plain

To all those folk who responded with advice to my original query, thank you very much. A special word of thanks to Edward Sadowski Jr., for the latest BPQ v 4.07a software.

Briefly, I have ascertained that one cannot run a standard MFJ 1276 with FBB in KISS mode without using BPQ node software. The problem in this regard lies with the FBB software which for some reason will not work directly with a TNC-2 clone. The chip needs to be changed for a WA8DED chip, something that I am loathe to do, as I do not understand the full implications of this mod.

The FBB software configuration is such that one has the option of either using ESS drivers, PK232 hostmode, KAM Hostmode or BPQ node. BPQ supports KISS mode, as does the MFJ 1276 TNC. So it looks like I will marry the FBB and the MFJ 1276 in the BPQ church.

Once again, many thanks to all those who responded. The BBS should be up and running soon.

Cheerio,

Brian ZR5DTS Voice: ++27-31-7011201 (06:00-14:30 UTC)
Internet: briane@goofy.iaccess.za Fax: ++27-31-7090813
AX25 Packet: ZR5DTS@ZS5S.NTL.ZAF ICBM's: 29:51:05 S 30:53:59 E

I am glad I don't know everything, that way life isn't boring - Brian Ellse 94

50. Re: [BBSSIG:94] MFJ and FBB - Thank you.....

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 19:34:07 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941015193407.94e@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello Brian...

Sure glad to be of help... Let me know how you make out with your final setup/config... Should be a piece of cake... All you'll really need to do with the software I sent you is to change the callsign/alias pairs to reflect your own needs and configure the port(s) to reflect your needs as well...

73, Ed, K1BYV

51. Re: [BBSSIG:91]

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 19:06:02 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410160006.TAA01408@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Greg,

I would like to suggest a minor rule for marking up the list.

Only mark up the state where you reside. (or at least have first hand information.)

As an extension, could we have each region matched with callsigns of HF BBS which serve that area?

So for the Iowa regions:

ECIA wa0rjt
SEIA wa0rjt
CIA wa0rjt ke0wo
NWIA ke0wo

Are there more logical enhancements to the basic list?

Barry

52. Re: [BBSSIG:96] Re:

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sat, 15 Oct 1994 19:27:09 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410160027.TAA00189@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

These are great suggestions Barry.

Now - the other important question. Does someone have time to take on the chore. I have midterms now and the DSP-93 production running come up soon....so we need a volunteer to keep the initial list.

Greg

According to Barry Buelow - WA0RJT:

>
> Greg,
>
> I would like to suggest a minor rule for marking up the list.
>
> Only mark up the state where you reside. (or at least


```

> have first hand information.)
>
> As an extension, could we have each region matched with callsigns
> of HF BBS which serve that area?
>
> So for the Iowa regions:
> ECIA wa0rjt
> SEIA wa0rjt
> CIA wa0rjt ke0wo
> NWIA ke0wo
>
> Are there more logical enhancements to the basic list?
>
> Barry
>
>
>

```

53. Re: [BBSSIG:91] Re: regional octothorpes

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
 Date: Sun, 16 Oct 1994 13:19:52 -0400 (EDT)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941016131501.2560A-100000@planetx>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 15 Oct 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

```

> CPA#PA
> EPA#PA
> NCPA#PA
> NPA#PA
> NWPA#PA
> PHL#PA
> SCPA#PA
> SEPA#PA
> SWPA#PA
> WPA#PA

```

Offically, We have EPA, and WPA. Some stations do use PA only.

As for the other designations, I dunno... I could ask, however...

Let me know if you want me to ask around, and what exactly to ask...

```

73, de Bill, N3JIX
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****

```

54. Re: [BBSSIG:98] Re: regional octothorpes

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
 Date: Sun, 16 Oct 1994 13:25:26 -0500 (CDT)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <199410161825.NAA01644@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Bill,

Well all these PA ids came from existing messages sent this year. So - you might want to ask ?

Who is using these ?

and are EPA and WPA the only ones really ?

Is there a group of BBS operators that at least 1) communicate regularly and possibly 2) try to set operating procedues within the state.

Greg

According to William L. Barnes:

```

>
>
>
> On Sat, 15 Oct 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

```

```

>
>
> > CPA#PA
> > EPA#PA
> > NCPA#PA
> > NPA#PA
> > NWPA#PA
> > PHL#PA
> > SCPA#PA
> > SEPA#PA
> > SWPA#PA
> > WPA#PA
>
> Offically, We have EPA, and WPA.  Some stations do use PA only.
>
> As for the other designations, I dunno...  I could ask, however...
>
> Let me know if you want me to ask around, and what exactly to ask...
>
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX
> *****
> * Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
> * Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
> * Packet :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
> *****
>
>
>

```

55. Re: Regional Octothorpe

```

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Sun, 16 Oct 1994 13:14:41 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410161248.A7375-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

My apologies if this isn't the proper way to do this, but I gathered a few comments from the last few days that I wanted to reply to. These are from various postings on this subject and are not marked as to originator.

```

>      There needs to be bbs routers in every state and every large city
>within the state. A STATE organization will make sure every router in the
>state knows how to forward mail within the state.

```

Where did this term "router" come from? You use it as if it is a normal thing. It has "never" been used in the packet network in the past, and I doubt that a lot of areas would know your exact definition of one.

```

>For people complaining about getting
>mail for the other side of the state when they don't have connectivity, how
>anyone even supposed to know this? That's the job of a BBS sysop to inform
>the people forwarding to you what you can handle.

```

Ah! But the guy who forwards to me is not the one who is making the bad decision. It's several hops away, and in some cases several states away.

```

>Adding another field in
>your address isn't going to help any, the state is still there and if
>someone needed to reach a state they'd send it to the same place as they
>always have.

```

I have to agree. Making the address more complicated isn't going to help. Going beyond the regional just increases the load.

```

>Tell people that forward to you not to send mail to you that
>you can't handle.

```

It isn't that it can't be handled. It's that there are FASTER routes. Yes, I can handle traffic for Lincoln or Omaha Nebraska. However, if that traffic originated in Cincinatti, or Los Angeles, the first station who is in a position to make a decision about whether to send that traffic to KT0H or to NF0N or to K0BOY, needs to know that it should be sent to the latter two. If the traffic is for Scottsbluff, Chadron, etc, then it needs to go to KT0H. How is the west coast or mid-west hf (or other gate) station going to know that .#WNE goes to Denver and not Omaha?

```

>They may need to know how your state is divided up and
>have that info on their system,

```

Exactly!

>but only the stations that forward to
>you need this, we in Michigan don't need to know how another state is
>divided up for forwarding purposes.

I disagree, for the reasons above. At the first place in Michigan having access to KTOH, or someone who fws directly to him, THAT station needs to know that THIS state is divided. For that reason, the distribution of this information needs to be national and automated. It can't be done on a local basis.

>I think this is the case for most places. The regional ids exist.
>
>Let now find out:
> 1. How and who generated the various states regional ids

In most cases, the individual sysop did it in rural areas without coordination. For instance, I am the one who decided to use #WNE because I am in an area that is served very poorly by generic .NE addressing. IF there was a way to get that information distributed nationally, and have it acted on by the bbs automatically, it would be of great help. Okay, so there won't be automatic use of it for now. But at least allow a way of distributing the information, as in my original suggestion that no one has even commented on. If SP ROUTER@ALLUS were instigated, the information would be made available to all who could use it. Not everyone needs to know all of this routing. Some simply send EVERYTHING to the same place. But, anyone who has more than one route outbound needs it. Maybe it would NOT work on an automated basis, I don't know. But let's discuss it some.

> Good point Gary. I see that Hank, as usual has come forth with
>his information well in hand. But you I think are a packet bbs and should
>be able to find out how mail gets into and out of your AREA. If not you
>then find out who is routing for your area and send him/her in as the
>person to receive mail about the tapr list.
>
>-karl

Yes, I can tell you how packet moves in and out of my area. But that doesn't mean that YOU know how it moves, and that is what is needed in some cases. How many of you know that Eureka CA traffic needs to go to Oregon? You send it to CA and someone there just needs to send it to OR so it can work its way back south to Eureka. The same goes for my area. Send my traffic to eastern NE and it just has to go to another hf station and get sent to me or to Denver.

Again, I really don't think a change in regionals is needed. What is needed is a way to distribute the information about who handles what regionals. Afterall, if a regional is NEEDED, then a different routing must also be needed. There is no other reason to have a regional.

Gary
(mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us)

56. Re: [BBSSIG:99] Re: regional octothorpes

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Mon, 17 Oct 1994 08:50:34 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941017084646.25190A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 16 Oct 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> Who is using these ?
> and are EPA and WPA the only ones really ?

Most of the PBBS sysops use CBBS for the bbs software of choice. It works really good for what we need. Since most of us use the same software, it's all been "accepted" to use what is listed in STATES.MB. There, the most common thing in previous versions was EPA and WPA.

I did check into it, there are some PBBS that are using FBB, MSYS, and others that started to use identifiers other than EPA and WPA. So, Now I don't know if there is a standard other than what ever the PBBS sysop wants to do...

> Is there a group of BBS operators that at least 1) communicate regularly and
> possibly 2) try to set operating procedures within the state.

1) A few of us "local" sysops chat regularly.

2) As far as I know, there isn't anyone in the state setting up operating procedures, nor coordination.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

57. Re: [BBSSIG:89] Re: Regional Octothorpe

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Mon, 17 Oct 1994 11:54:31 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org, bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410171553.AA28453@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 12:48 AM 10/15/94 CDT, KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

>I happen to like the Rose method of using telephone area codes and
>exchanges as well.
>

If ROSE ever grows to the point of there being a national network, use of area codes and exchanges for mail routing would make it much easier for PBBS sysops! PBBSs could simply aske the network to connect them to BBS @ AreaCode_Exchange, and the network would establish a connection to a BBS in the correct "direction", as distant as possible for a truly reliable connection.

(No, the current ROSE code doesn't support this. It was part of the original design spec, but was put on "hold" when the PBBS community decided not to consider using AreaCodes and exchanges for routing. If there is demand for this feature I'm sure Tom, W2VY, would be able to implement it rather quickly.)

-Andy-
--

```
_____ Andrew Funk, KB7UV _____
| ENG Editor/Microwave Control, WCB5-TV Channel 2 News, New York |
| Internet: kb7uv@panix.com      Packet: kb7uv@kb7uv.#nli.ny.usa |
|                               --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE ---   |
```

58. FYI

From: dme@ingersoll.com (Dave Ewaldz N9HKM)
Date: Fri, 21 Oct 94 13:22:35 CDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410212022.AA07653@ingersoll.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I ran across this posting on the packet-radio digest mailing list today. Anybody know more about the story behind this?
This SIG has been much too quiet lately, so here it is:

Date: 20 Oct 94 23:11:01 GMT
>From: w5robert@blkbox.COM (Robert Wood)
Subject: Off the BBS system

Maybe something here to get some thread going::
I found this interesting report and flame on the local BBS::

.....

>From: K7WWA@K7WWA.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
To : INFO@ALLUS

```
*** FLAME ON
*** I think this needs to be shared.
*** AB6GQ was licensed on 2 Jul 1991. He is now an Amateur Extra (?). He
*** sure must think his is something if he really started this one.
*** FLAME OFF
```

Original from AB6GQ to SYSOP@NCPA
Path: !KC6PJW!WX3K!WB0TAX!KA6EYH!KA6EYH!W6PW!KA6FUB!WA6RDH!KM6PX!

>From: AB6GQ@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
To : SYSOP@NCPA

Hello dedicated SYSOPs. My name is Fred Sober, and I am the Official Observer Coordinator for the Sacramento Valley Section of the ARRL. I am sending this bulletin at the suggestion of some of the local BBS SYSOPs, who thought you should be aware of the following info:

Approximately one year ago, I initiated a series of correspondence with John B. Johnson, Chief of the Private Radio Bureau of the FCC. Due to the confusion of Amateur Radio Packet BBS users regarding the permissible message content of bulletins, and the growing tendency to abuse the system, we requested FCC clarification regarding the definition of "One-Way Bulletins" and "Bulletin Message Content" as it specifically applied to Amateur Packet Radio. The position of the FCC is as follows:

1. Any packet message or bulletin sent to ANYTHING other than another specific Amateur Callsign (EXCLUDING the callsign of the BBS) is considered to be a "One-Way Bulletin," and as such must comply with Part 97 in terms of permissible message content for such bulletins. Also stated was the definition of "anything" (above), which is such addressing as to ALL, ALLUS, ALLCA, Food, Drugs, Guns, or anything else, other than another specific amateur callsign.
2. The information sent MUST NOT BE INTENDED for anyone but other licensed Amateur. "Intent" is determined by "Message Content," not by the mental intent of the message originator.
3. The Information sent MUST BE RELATED TO, AND OF INTEREST TO AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS ONLY!
4. Any Packet Bulletin which contains material which relates to anything not directly related to amateur radio, or of interest to amateur radio operators only, is considered to be "Broadcasting." This includes material on Cars, Guns, Politics, Food, Jokes, Current Events, etc. etc. etc.

In the above listing the emphasis was supplied by the FCC in the letter I have on file.

For further clarification you may refer to the "FCC Rule Book" published by the ARRL, (1993 Edition). On Pages 6-6 and 6-7 the topic of information bulletins on packet radio is discussed. The highlighted section in the box is a paraphrase of the letters I have on file from the FCC.

Upon notifying the ARRL Rules Department of this Clarification, they made the determination that the abuses in this regard were] so widely spread and prevalent, that the League and the Official Observers needed to undertake an educational effort regarding this ruling, prior to beginning a notification effort on the individual offenders. This would prevent an overwhelming overload of the OO Program.

Some BBS SYSOPS, such as KM6PX, upon learning of this clarification voluntarily and unilaterally decided to set the clarified standards as the operating standard for their BBS's. They began editing and deleting any bulletin traffic which did not comply with the above.

Technically, with the latest rulings by the FCC, the BBS SYSOP is jointly responsible for violations of Part 97, by operators which originate a bulletin through their BBS into the system.

Technically, the FCC can at any time begin issuing NAL's to the Operators and SYSOPS for any bulletins in violation of the above.

Practically, I do not know when the OO Notices and NAL's may start being issued, but it behooves you as a BBS SYSOP to be aware of the current rulings and facts, and hopefully to be in compliance prior to any notification or enforcement actions being taken.

73, keep up the good work! Fred Sober, AB6GQ

*** Yes, Fred, keep up the good work. I'm glad that you are doing all

Please note that the letters are over a year old. I have not received copies of the letters that Fred Sober had sent to the FCC which these are the responses. These have been scanned in and checked by hand, so there might be mistakes that are not intentional on my part. The last part is a copy of the packet bulletin sent by AB6GQ@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM concerning his views on the letters and regulations.

I will be working with Dave Wolf, W05H, and the TAPR BBS SIG to generate a TAPR response to the message that Fred Sober posted. It seems that many of the comments that he made in his bulletin regarding the origination of packet messages routed using flood distribution (bulletins) were out of context with the letters shown below, unless it was intended for amateurs sending messages intended from non-amateur reading. We will detail these thoughts in an upcoming message.

The important points in the letters below indicate that messages (private or bulletin) are considered to be within the rules since they are intended to be sent to other amateurs. A one-way transmission would result on packet radio, like any other amateur mode, when a message (private or bulletin) was originated 'intentionally' to be read by non-hams.

I would like to state that John Johnson's response to the letters of question are well phrased and explained regarding the issue.

Cheers - Greg Jones, WD5IVD
President, TAPR

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554
08 JUN 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7230-D/1700C

Mr. Frederick A. Sober
506 Oakland Avenue
Roseville, California 95678

Dear Mr. Sober:

This is in reply to your letter of May 11, 1993, requesting clarification of information bulletins on amateur service packet networks. Specifically, you ask about the status of bulletins that are not addressed to a particular amateur station and the type of communications that are permissible in information bulletins.

There are no specific rules for packet network operations. Section 97.111(b)(7) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.111(b)(7), authorizes one-way transmissions that are necessary to disseminate information bulletins. Further, Section 97.3(a)(23) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.3(a)(23), defines an information bulletin as a message directed to amateur operators that consists solely of matters that are of direct interest to the amateur service. Information bulletins addressed to "ALL" or "ALLUS" are permissible, if that means they are for all amateurs stations or all amateur stations in the United States. If such information bulletins, however, are intended for all persons or all persons in the United States, they are not permissible because that would constitute broadcasting. Broadcasting is defined in Section 97.3(a)(10) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.3(a)(10), as transmissions intended for reception by the general public and broadcasting is prohibited by Section 97.113(c) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.113(c).

Because of the diversity of interests shared by amateur operators, it is not possible to make a list of permissible topics. All amateurs operators, however, are required to comply with the Commission's Rules. In particular, your attention is invited to Section 97.113 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.113, which specifies the types of communications that are prohibited.

I trust this reply is responsive to your inquiry.

Sincerely,
John B. Johnson
Chief, Personal Radio Branch

=====

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554
27 SEP 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7230-D/1700C1

Mr. Frederick A. Sober
506 Oakland Avenue
Roseville, California 95678

Dear Mr. Sober:

This is in reply to your letter of July 16, 1993, requesting additional information concerning information bulletins which are permitted in the amateur service as one-way transmissions. Specifically, you request clarification regarding permissible message content in an information bulletin, and a definition of the word "intended" which was used in our letter to you of June 8, 1993, when discussing recipients of information bulletins.

Section 97.3(a)(23) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.3(a)(23), is clear that the information bulletin must be directed only to amateur operators and must consist of subject matter that is of direct interest to the amateur service. In other words, the sender must want the information bulletin to be received only by amateur operators. Further, the content of the information bulletin must concern a topic that is in some way related to, or connected with, the amateur service so that it fulfills the requirement of the definition that it be of "direct interest" to the amateur service.

The word "intended" was not meant to be a word of art in our letter. We were merely paraphrasing the definition of an information bulletin contained in Section 97.3(a)(23).

I trust this reply is responsive to your inquiry.

Sincerely,
John B. Johnson
Chief, Personal Radio Branch

=====

Original from AB6GQ to SYSOP@NCPA
Path: !KC6PJW!WX3K!WB0TAX!KA6EYH!KA6EYH!W6PW!KA6FUB!WA6RDH!KM6PX!

From: AB6GQ@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
To : SYSOP@NCPA

Hello dedicated SYSOPs. My name is Fred Sober, and I am the Official Observer Coordinator for the Sacramento Valley Section of the ARRL. I am sending this bulletin at the suggestion of some of the local BBS SYSOPs, who thought you should be aware of the following info:

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1. Any packet message or bulletin sent to ANYTHING other than another specific Amateur Callsign (EXCLUDING the callsign of the BBS) is considered to be a "One-Way Bulletin," and as such must comply with Part 97 in terms of permissible message content for such bulletins. Also stated was the definition of "anything" (above), which is such addressing as to ALL, ALLUS, ALLCA, Food, Drugs, Guns, or anything else, other than another specific amateur callsign.
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For further clarification you may refer to the "FCC Rule Book" published by the ARRL, (1993 Edition). On Pages 6-6 and 6-7 the topic of information bulletins on packet radio is discussed. The highlighted section in the box is a paraphrase of the letters I have on file from the FCC.

Upon notifying the ARRL Rules Department of this Clarification, they made the determination that the abuses in this regard were] so widely spread and prevalent, that the League and the Official Observers needed to undertake an educational effort regarding this ruling, prior to beginning a notification effort on the individual offenders. This would prevent an overwhelming overload of the OO Program.

Some BBS SYSOPS, such as KM6PX, upon learning of this clarification voluntarily and unilaterally decided to set the clarified standards as the operating standard for their BBS's. They began editing and deleting any bulletin traffic which did not comply with the above.

Technically, with the latest rulings by the FCC, the BBS SYSOP is jointly responsible for violations of Part 97, by operators which originate a bulletin through their BBS into the system.

Technically, the FCC can at any time begin issuing NAL's to the Operators and SYSOPS for any bulletins in violation of the above.

Practically, I do not know when the OO Notices and NAL's may start being issued, but it behooves you as a BBS SYSOP to be aware of the current rulings and facts, and hopefully to be in compliance prior to any notification or enforcement actions being taken.

73, keep up the good work! Fred Sober, AB6GQ

62. [HFSIG:42] Official Observers (fwd)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 15:13:36 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199410232013.PAA15332@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to KY1TLuck@aol.com:
>From hfsig@tapr.org Sun Oct 23 09:51:05 1994
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 94 09:48 CDT
Message-Id: <941023104625991923@aol.com>
Reply-To: hfsig@tapr.org
Originator: hfsig@tapr.org
Sender: hfsig@tapr.org
Precedence: bulk
From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
To: hfsig@tapr.org
Subject: [HFSIG:42] Official Observers
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio HF Speical Interest Group

I, for one, appreciate Greg's efforts at getting appropriate and detailed info regarding this particular OO/FCC matter out into the hands of those subscribed to this list. And I'm glad to see that ARRL HQ's Regulatory Information Branch continues to be so promptly responsive. This is good...

I might be able to shed some light on a couple of other aspects of this matter, since it was I who was in charge of the ARRL/FCC Amateur Auxiliary (Official Observer) program for much of my 7 years at ARRL HQ. And having been an Official Observer Coordinator in the ARRL's volunteer Field Organization in two different ARRL Sections (Virginia and Eastern Massachusetts), I have an unusual perspective from both sides of the fence.

I can understand, for example, why Fred Sober would be writing to FCC. And I can understand -- from the administrative side -- why that's a bad move on

Fred's part.

For one thing, it's absolutely forbidden. I know of no less than four Official Observers and two Official Observer Coordinators who were "removed" from their positions because of doing just that. The ARRL gets real jumpy when one of their troops makes contact with FCC, and this instance we're discussing right now is absolutely a PERFECT example of why that's so. Yah, I know; we all -- most of us anyway -- tend to think that word from Johnny Johnston is somehow that of God himself, FCC-wise. But there's two things to consider carefully:

1. Johnny doesn't work for the enforcement part of FCC. In other words, while he may (and often does) express his opinion about certain Part 97 regulations, they're just that, opinions. They're not binding. Only Part 97 itself is. And let's get back to Part 97 in just a sec.

2. I've personally witnessed the results of a VERY large number of inquiries from amateurs to FCC in the past decade. And I can assure you that, depending on who is telephoned, faxed, written to, pestered at a hamfest, or otherwise communicated with, the resulting opinions from FCC staff can -- and usually are -- remarkably different. This is clearly because of the way the question is posed, and it stands to reason that since we amateurs are typically very bad at communicating (sigh...) we're GOING to get differing opinions.

I'm getting painfully wordy, so let me sum up.

The whole issue is moot. Greg has already correctly put things in perspective; a packet bulletin is NOT, by ANY stretch of the imagination a one-way transmission. Transmissions from one TNC to another are two-way transmissions. Not one-way. Period. Thus, the supposed Notices of Apparent Liability that Fred Sober speaks of will never occur. And if 00 notices happen, that's perfectly fine since they don't have the weight of Part 97 enforcement anyway, except by way of friendly amateur-to-amateur peer pressure.

I'd hate to guess how many whining phone calls I got every day for seven years from amateurs who'd gotten "picked on" by 00 notices. My usual retort to them was "gee, have you considered throwing the post card in the trash and getting on with your amateur radio activities, OM?" "Well, (sputter, fume), but what are you gonna DO about this jerk who sent me the card, huh?" "well, I might drop him a note, congratulating him for continuing to express his opinions on what he believes would make the bands a better place to hang out". Which usually resulted in more sputtering and fuming, aimed at ME this time, which was probably better than having it aimed at the volunteer who was taking his best -- even if sometimes misguided -- shot.

And, finally, let's all try to remember that this is a non-issue. NALs won't happen, and 00 notices don't count, so let's move on.

73

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA

63. [HFSIG:44] Re: Official Observers (fwd)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 15:13:49 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199410232013.PAA15339@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Barry Buelow - WA0RJT:
>From hfsig@tapr.org Sun Oct 23 12:50:55 1994
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 94 12:47 CDT
Message-Id: <199410231710.MAA13394@allanon.ia.net>
Reply-To: hfsig@tapr.org
Originator: hfsig@tapr.org
Sender: hfsig@tapr.org
Precedence: bulk
From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
To: hfsig@tapr.org
Subject: [HFSIG:44] Re: Official Observers
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio HF Speical Interest Group
Content-Length: 1169
Content-Type: text

X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL23]
In-Reply-To: <941023104625991923@aol.com> from "KY1TLuck@aol.com" at Oct 23, 94 09:48:00 am

Luck,

I appreciate your comments on the OO and FCC. It is good to have someone with first hand experience comment.

As you may recall, I threatened to petition the FCC on exactly this issue a few months ago. At the DCC in Mpls, I attempted to defend my position that bltns are one-way and therefore restricted to info bltns.

The attitude of the sysops in the crowd was:

1. ignorance of the rules - I expected better, but wasn't totally surprised.
2. why bother - no one seems to see that there are NO values and any topic is acceptable for aa bltn.

Obviously I was disappointed at being laughed off the stage. One major technical contributor to packet said "let the channels get jammed, then there will be a reason to go faster".

The major problem I have with this entire episode is that it is one more reason that people with real brains will leave ham radio. The idiots are overrunning us and the liberals are letting them.

It is very difficult to keep from screaming "dumb shit" into the microphone.

If this is an indication of where ham radio is going, I'll go back to my model trains.

73and thanks again for valuable insights,

Barry wa0rjt

64. Messages from HFSIG

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 15:29:31 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBSIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199410232029.PAA16286@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I reposted the messages from Luck and Barry posted to the HFSIG, since I believe we will want to discuss these messages here on the BBSSIG.

I didn't post anything to the HFSIG, I hope, on this issue.

Greg

65. Re: [BBSSIG:103] FYI

From: n3kfh@centrum.is (Don Dietz)
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 21:34:10 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410232207.WAA17836@plaza.centrum.is>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>I ran across this posting on the packet-radio digest mailing list
>today. Anybody know more about the story behind this?
>This SIG has been much too quiet lately, so here it is:
>
>
>Date: 20 Oct 94 23:11:01 GMT
>>From: w5robert@blkbox.COM (Robert Wood)
>Subject: Off the BBS system
>
>Maybe something here to get some thread going::
>I found this interesting report and flame on the local BBS::
>
>.....
>>From: K7WWA@K7WWA.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
>To : INFO@ALLUS
>
>*** FLAME ON
>*** I think this needs to be shared.
>*** AB6GQ was licensed on 2 Jul 1991. He is now an Amateur Extra (?). He

```
>*** sure must think his is something if he really started this one.
>*** FLAME OFF
>
>Original from AB6GQ to SYSOP@NCPA
>Path: !KC6PJW!WX3K!WB0TAX!KA6EYH!KA6EYH!W6PW!KA6FUB!WA6RDH!KM6PX!
>
>>From: AB6GQ@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
>To : SYSOP@NCPA
>
```

[snip] (much deleted)

```
>73, keep up the good work! Fred Sober, AB6GQ
>
>*** Yes, Fred, keep up the good work. I'm glad that you are doing all
>that you
>*** can to make Amateur radio packet boring.
>
>*** 73 George K7WWA @ K7WWA.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
```

Well, I have to totally agree here! Most of the time I would kill to see any traffic at all here in Iceland! Come to think of it, it would be just super to see some jokes coming along around the December, January, February time frame when we don't get to see but one to two hours of daylight and EVERYONE is totally depressed for months!

```
>--
>73
>Robert
>
>--
> Dave Ewaldz   INGERSOLL MILLING MACHINE CO.
> N9HKM         Rockford, Illinois, USA
>
> Internet      - dme@ingersoll.com
> Amprnet       - n9hkm%n9hkm.ampr.org@ke9yq.ampr.org
> Ma-Bell       - (815)-987-6081
> Packet ax25 mail - n9hkm@n9hkm.#ncil.il.usa.noam
>
>
```

73 de Don, N3KFH /TF8

Don Dietz, N3KFH /TF8
Certified Electronics Technician,
Communications Journeyman (ISCET) MD-250

Internet: n3kfh@centrum.is Packet: n3kfh@tf3lj.isl.eu
 ddietz@rhi.hi.is n3kfh@k4ry.#cenal.al.usa.noam

66. Bulletins

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 17:51:54 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410231751511185616@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Interesting points, Barry, and thanks for sharing them with us.

I think you've spotted a common problem. Namely that SYSOPS would frequently prefer to be a tad ignorant of the rules so that they don't have to DEAL with these matters. That's absolutely NOT always true, of course, and I don't mean to paint with too broad a brush here.

But it works the other way as well, in that, well, for example, the new rules allow for a lot more to happen that we previously were forbidden from doing, and I find a LOT of resistance to understanding and implementing them from the older (in terms of license age, not physical age) licensees.

Not just from SYSOPS, but "normal" (?) amateurs as well.

A couple of examples quickly come to mind:

1. I was again involved this year with the fairly large-scale NTS traffic effort from the 17 day Eastern States Exposition. An excellent public service activity, I hasten to add. And I was once again somewhat taken aback by the extreme reluctance of some members of the traffic handling community to handle messages that were perfect legal and legitimate. In short, they

were "bounced" right here in New England, simply because they were destined for countries with whom we do not happen to have a third party agreement with. In other words, the old style of thinking still prevails among many amateurs, rather than trying to understand the absolute legality of the situation. Better to short circuit a message than to understand the regulations... Sheesh. Another black eye for ham radio. In fact, close to a hundred of them that I was aware of, during this 17 day period.

2. We now have changes to the rules in effect that allow us as amateurs to perform an incredibly wonderful and robust amount of increased service to the public. But as a very large-scale rule, we simply don't. Why? Because of the mind-set that remains in place that we're somehow here to serve ourselves as amateurs, rather than the public. "And besides" sayeth the old-thinkers, "when I was a pup, we were forbidden from conducting anyone's business". Ergo, we still shouldn't be using our billions of dollars worth of spectrum for the public's benefit? Horse manouvers!

Let me give you a specific example of number two above. The day AFTER the new "business is now allowed" rules went into effect, I put a file on a local packet BBS. It was a file showing prices (and whereabouts) for adaptive equipment and other categories of hardware and software of interest to the handicapped. It (the file) was immediately squashed because of the fact that it conducted the business of the organization selling the stuff. Perfectly legal, now, mind you, because it didn't conduct MY business, that of my employer, (or any other amateur radio control operator for that matter).

My point of all this rambling being that we all (SYSOPS and normal hams alike) need to be reminded on occasion that the rules DO change, sometimes even for the better, and that we should be prepared to accept those changes. To do otherwise is to perform a gross disservice to both the public, and -- ultimately -- ourselves as amateurs.

One thing I'm happy for is the opportunity these TAPR sigs give us to hash these things out.

73

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA

67. Oops!

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 17:52:03 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410231752021185686@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Good point, Greg, and I apologize if I was the goofy party, responsible for putting the 00 topic on the wrong sig. Sheesh...

LH

68. ..of direct interest

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 19:18:54 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410232318.AA23912@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

What troubles me is the quote "..of direct interest to the Amateur Service."

He may have a point that guns/food/jokes may pose a problem for us.
I do agree that the issue of broadcasting is now moot.

No flames please, gawd knows I have had my share of that but what do you think of "direct interest " ?

73

--
Frank
SysOp WA2NDV.#NLI.NY.USA.NA and LONNY/Burbank Wormholes
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

69. BULLETIN IMPORTERS

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 19:35:52 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410232335.AA26079@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
Now for another possible flame-fest.....

We are all familiar with the new regs saying either you VERIFY the sender or BOTH the sender and the SysOp are responsible for the content of a message. Everyone agrees on that but...now W2XYZ has just come up on the internet and starts accepting bulletins from ANYBODY (sound familiar ?). The rules in say PI5 land are not like ours and the sysop over there doesnt read what his users are sending. A user sends a particularly nasty note that makes the rounds of Europe then hits W2XYZ who also didnt take the time to read what is coming in since it was not ORIGINATED on his board.

Now the point of all this..W2XYZ is the FIRST BBS under the FCC jurisdiction where the violation took place.

Is the SysOp of W2XYZ responsible now ? Is his in violation ?
It didnt originate on his BBS after all.

Just wondering....

--
Frank SysOp WA2NDV.#NLI.NY.USA.NA LONNY/Burbank wormholes
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

70. Re: [BBSSIG:105] Re: regional octothorpes

From: n3kfh@centrum.is (Don Dietz)
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 00:01:50 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410240035.AAA23510@plaza.centrum.is>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Drop me a note, via the sat gate, and well keep in touch... Plus I do
>pass traffic for NTS if you want to send a message home... {Grin}
>

Well Bill, I guess that NTS would be a great idea, but it is just that. As the name states, it is the National Traffic System NOT international, unfortunately. I thought about sending a few messages via this medium, but I was informed by the Iceland satgate sysop that becuase of the lack of a third party agreement between Iceland and the US (or almost anyone for that matter), that it would be illegal for him to forward such a message. Of course, once we have the internet gateway up and working here, maybe we can get around that restriction. Anyway, I can now telnet to a gateway in the US via my commercial Internet account and pass an NTS message that way. As a matter of fact, I think I may do this for the holidays, before I come home. I think that it would make a unique Christmas card/gift!

>packet: n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam

>
>73, de Bill, N3JIX
>*****
>* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
>* Internet: wlarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
>* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
>*****
>
>

73 for now.
de Don, N3KFH /TF8 - Keflavik, Iceland

Don Dietz, N3KFH /TF8
Certified Electronics Technician,
Communications Journeyman (ISCET) MD-250

Internet: n3kfh@centrum.is Packet: n3kfh@tf31j.isl.eu
ddietz@rhi.hi.is n3kfh@k4ry.#cenal.al.usa.noam

71. Re: [BBSSIG:115] Re: regional octothorpes

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 21:40:38 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941023213913.22485A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 23 Oct 1994, Don Dietz wrote:

> a matter of fact, I think I may do this for the holidays, before I come
> home. I think that it would make a unique Christmas card/gift!

Definally! Sounds interesting to me ...

Some changes may happen here in PA for packet... I dunno yet, but It may
be major...

Oh Well...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

72. Re: [BBSSIG:113] ..of direct interest

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 21:55:05 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410240255.VAA03297@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Frank Garofalo:

>
> What troubles me is the quote "..of direct interest to the Amateur Service."
>
> He may have a point that guns/food/jokes may pose a problem for us.
> I do agree that the issue of broadcasting is now moot.
>
> No flames please, gawd knows I have had my share of that but what do you
> think of "direct interest " ?

You need to read the letters that were posted from John Johson. That
wording was not used.

Dave spoke with Fred Sober this eveing and he should be posting something
shortly concerning that and a basic position statement for discussion.

Are we having fun yet ? Don't forget we are about to lose all of our
UHF/SHF freqs in the next 5 years.

Cheers - greg

73. Re: [BBSSIG:114] BULLETIN IMPORTERS

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 1994 21:57:52 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410240257.VAA03393@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Frank Garofalo:

> Is the SysOp of W2XZY responsible now ? Is his in violation ?
> It didnt originate on his BBS after all.

Yes. It did originate from his BBS into the Amateur Network here in the US.
It all becomes third party traffic, which he is responsible as a gateway
station.

He might not be the first forwarding station, but the third party rules now
apply.

Isn't this fun.

Cheers - Greg

74. [BBSSIG:106] he Did say In Direct Interest

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 01:07:49 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410240507.AA29043@panix.com>

Rendered body type: text/plain

```
> -----
>
> FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
> WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554
> 08 JUN 1993
>
> IN REPLY REFER TO:
> 7230-D/1700C
>
> Mr. Frederick A. Sober
> 506 Oakland Avenue
> Roseville, California 95678
>
> Dear Mr. Sober:
>
> This is in reply to your letter of May 11, 1993, requesting clarification of
> information bulletins on amateur service packet networks. Specifically, you
> ask about the status of bulletins that are not addressed to a particular
> amateur station and the type of communications that are permissible in
> information bulletins.
>
> There are no specific rules for packet network operations. Section
> 97.111(b)(7) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.111(b)(7), authorizes
> one-way transmissions that are necessary to disseminate information
> bulletins. Further, Section 97.3(a)(23) of the Commission's Rules, 47
> C.F.R. / 97.3(a)(23), defines an information bulletin as a message directed
> to amateur operators that consists solely of matters that are of direct
> interest to the amateur service. Information bulletins addressed to "ALL"
```

[stuff deleted]
>
> Sincerely,
> John B. Johnson
> Chief, Personal Radio Branch

>>>>> Then in the SECOND reply the FCC says it again !!!

> This is in reply to your letter of July 16, 1993, requesting additional
> information concerning information bulletins which are permitted in the
> amateur service as one-way transmissions. Specifically, you request
> clarification regarding permissible message content in an information
> bulletin, and a definition of the word "intended" which was used in our
> letter to you of June 8, 1993, when discussing recipients of information
> bulletins.

[STUFF DELETED]

> > 506 Oakland Avenue
> > Roseville, California 95678
> >
> > Dear Mr. Sober:
> >
> > This is in reply to your letter of July 16, 1993, requesting additional
> > information concerning information bulletins which are permitted in the
> > amateur service as one-way transmissions. Specifically, you request
> > clarification regarding permissible message content in an information
> > bulletin, and a definition of the word "intended" which was used in our
> > letter to you of June 8, 1993, when discussing recipients of information
> > bulletins.
> *****
> > Section 97.3(a)(23) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.3(a)(23), is
> > clear that the information bulletin must be directed only to amateur
> > operators and must consist of subject matter that is of direct interest to
> > the amateur service. In other words, the sender must want the information
> > bulletin to be received only by amateur operators. Further, the content of the
> > information bulletin must concern a topic that is in some way related to, or
> > connected with, the amateur service so that it fulfills the requirement of
> > the definition that it be of "direct interest" to the amateur service.
> *****
> [STUFF DELETED]
>
> > I trust this reply is responsive to your inquiry.
> >
> > Sincerely,
> > John B. Johnson
> > Chief, Personal Radio Branch
> >
> >
> > =====
> >
> Am I reading these out of order or something? I see it as the FCC
> addressing the issue of.." in the direct interest of the Amateur Service --
>
> Sorry to keep harping on this but I really do see it as a threat.
>

It is only a threat if all traffic in the amateur bands between amateurs (in any mode) is considered to be within these rules. Since amateur to amateur communications is not one-way, then none of our transmissions have to fall within this.

This is only in regards to one-way transmissions.

BBS to BBS, or packet station to packet station, or HF CW contact to HF CW are all two-way communications :-)

I'll wait till Dave posts his message concerning this issue before stating comments from myself or TAPR.

Greg

76. Re: [BBSSIG:120] Re: he Did say In Direct Interest

From: iw1cfl@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 94 08:56:20 utc
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <5786@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello all,
I have read the messages over the problem of bulletin content, so I'll put my \$ 0.2 opinion.
First of all I think that if a law is too restrictive, it can't be applied and when applied it will be used as a 'personal' punishment. In Italy we have a lot of laws unapplied and unattended for their cumbersominess.
In my mind the best way to solve the problem of Claudia Shiffer's .JPG over 7plus and similar stuff is to EDUCATE the users. If one is a novice on packet he will try to do some things, and if nobody explain he/she that what is doing isn't good, he'll continue to send .GIF over 7plus. The same happens (with a worse effect) with sysops.
As a sysop of an internet/AMPRnet gateway, i found that a phone call or a meeting into a pub solved a lot of problem with users.
A law surely will have a 'sledgehammer' effect over the intention of proposers.

It will also make a lot of good hams to stopping packet: if somebody would ask on packet where can find a TDA 12345 to repair his VCR, or a TDA 56789 for his HT, I think that it is a good ham indeed.

Also the main problem is that a lot of hams uses packet only as a medium, without knowing all but how to send a message to the local bbs and do some file transfers, and uses packet like compuserve or fido. These hams if have a God Syndrome will only shout about the message content, and not for instace that there are a lot of hidden nodes, or that will be useful to use full duplex channels over the backbone channel, or that use an SCC card will be better/worse than use a tnc. So they start to shouting about the message content, and when someone says that what they are saying is wrong, they stretch the laws to fit over their opinion. The packet experimenters are involved over other problems and have no time to think for flaming message or so. In fact to test athe speed achievable for a trunk, a Claudia Shiffer's .GIF can be used without upsetting anyone.

73

Mike

--

Michele Debandi - IW1CFL - Universita` di Torino
Packet HomeBBS I1YLM.IPIE.ITA.EU -- Internet mike@radio-gw.cisi.unito.it
AMPRnet iw1cfl@ik1qlld-10.ampr.org - iw1cfl@iw1cfl.ampr.org [44.134.128.73]

77. Re: [BBSSIG:120] Re: he Did say In Direct Interest

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 08:47:33 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941024084437.1625A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 24 Oct 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> It is only a threat if all traffic in the amateur bands between amateurs (in
> any mode) is considered to be within these rules. Since amateur to amateur
> communications is not one-way, then none of our transmissions have to fall
> within this.

This is the simple fact. I could give a recipe to my friend on 75 meter phone, 2 meter repeater, 40 meter CW, or Packet. It's legal on all modes because it's a two way transmissions...

And to Greg: No, I'm not having fun yet...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

78. Ole Farts Syndrome

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 10:16:22 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410241016201591686@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Barry: Roger!

Look, don't be hitting yourself so hard about the head and shoulders region. Most of those who've been licensed for a while have had to contend with the way newcomers differ now from what they were like when you and I were first licensed.

But that's GOOD. Times change. Society changes. We can as well.

And roger the point about the gun battle at both Newington and Washington. But from my perspective (and remember I was FIRED from ARRL HQ and by all rights should probably be royally pissed at them for everything imaginable), I don't see ANY indication whatsoever that either ARRL or FCC purposefully set out to change the Amateur Radio Service in a way that we (you, I and the lamppost) would consider to be grossly negative. Some folks may of course continue to believe that it happened that way ANYWAY, but my point is that neither organization set out to do it. OK, fair enough.

And yes, there's a bunch of loudmouthed wags that insist that ARRL "created" the codeless license merely to sell more books and (in the wag's minds) so as to increase ARRL's market share for everything from the VEC program to the Amateur Auxiliary.

I see it from an entirely different viewpoint. . . . the way I see it, the Amateur Radio Service had for DECADES been a good ole boys club of people wanting nothing much else, other than helping themselves to a few billion bucks of spectrum so as to play, occasionally experiment, and even more rarely do a bit of public service.

Lo and behold, along came Part 97. Particularly the part that speaks of the whys and wherefores. That is, WHY we're allowed the exceptional amount of freedom as radio amateurs, WHY regulations are crafted to be less (rather than more) restrictive, and yes, WHY such an expensive piece of real estate is virtually given to us.

Is it any WONDER that society figured it all out on their own? Isn't it crystal clear WHY the newcomers to the Amateur Radio Service are different now from the way we at least perceived ourselves when WE started?

I don't have a problem with the newcomers. I'm convinced that if we have nine bejillion newcomers this year, a certain percentage of them will want to serve the amateur radio needs of the state office of emergency services or the local chapter of the American Red Cross. Fine. And a certain percentage of them will see fit to experiment, participate in TAPR sigs, and do wonderful things for AMSAT. Also super. These are people we might not have had before.

The price, Barry, is that by opening up the flood gates, we get 'em all. Yup, we get some crazies, we get some loonies. We get some Lucks, and we get some Barrys. There's room for them all. Personally, the problem *I* have is with the people that are absolutely unable to deal appropriately with the newcomers. I would far prefer it if we'd each take a moment to show the Jane newcomers why her latest posting on the local PBBS doesn't quite fit the norm, or help Johnnie Newbie with his autoexec.NOS file. Instead, some of us just bellyache all day (and night) long about what's wrong with the newcomers. I'm not sure that it's the new folks that have it all wrong, hi.

73

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA

79. Third Party Traffic

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 10:18:26 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410241018241592782@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

N3KFH de KY1T --

That's another typical (and incorrect) rules interpretation that many amateurs are fond of continuing to botch up, Don.

In this case, it's because the rule itself has one, maybe two, words in there that make it extremely difficult for the radio amateur to understand what the intent of the rule was when it was crafted. But here's the scoop.

FCC doesn't have any problem whatsoever with what the country of ultimate destination is for an NTS or any other amateur radio type of message. If the message is going from Iceland to the U.S. that's fine. Even without a third party traffic agreement being in force.

The Part 97 problem is when we try to do it DIRECTLY between those two countries. The concern is:

THE BORDERS OF THE ACTUAL TRANSMISSION

The PBBS community (at least those with a desire to make the public service actually occur!) has had this point figured out for quite some many years now. Traffic to Europe, for example is problematic. The solution? Simple. Route it to Canada (or Israel) first. No rule broken there. What the Israeli amateur does with it is not a Part 97 concern and the FCC is forbidden from issuing an NAL, since no rule has been broken by an amateur under their jurisdiction.

So next time somebody tries to tell you that something is illegal under Part 97, I'd recommend that you examine the regulation yourself. Make your own informed decision.

LH

80. Direct Interest

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 10:18:34 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410241018321592846@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Frank:

What we need to remember about the matter of "direct interest to the Amateur Radio Service" is that it's only relative to the legality of one way transmissions.

In other words, when K1MAN is NOT in conversation with another amateur, but belches forth for half an hour about non-amateur matters, that's when Part 97 kicks in. And for good reason.

The other important thing to remember is that the rules are crafted, as a rule, with flexibility in mind. Flexibility to serve the public in whatever ways we think best. And the recent rule changes are even more clearly being established with that in mind.

Where once we had the collective thought in mind that "nothing's legal unless it's specifically allowed for in the rules", now we have the opposite (wonderful) situation whereby everything's allowed unless specifically prohibited. And nothing prohibits us from talking about gun control, abortion, or whatever other pet peeves and topics we'd like to discuss. It no longer has to be "of direct interest" to radio amateurs.

LH

81. Re: Content Restrictions on Packet Posting

From: "Chuck Pullen" <cpullen@netcom.com>
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 94 07:35:18 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <41544.cpullen@netcom17.netcom.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 21 Oct 94 17:55 CDT,
Dave Ewaldz N9HKM <dme@ingersoll.com> wrote:

>I ran across this posting on the packet-radio digest mailing list
>today. Anybody know more about the story behind this?
>This SIG has been much too quiet lately, so here it is:

Hi Everyone:

I hope that the flame war AB6GQ's efforts ignited here in the Sacramento Valley does not spread to this group. I have really enjoyed the TAPR SIG's because of the lack of invective among subscribers. My local BBS, KM6PX, has been in meltdown over this issue! Nevertheless, AB6GQ has brought up some interesting issues. So, here goes...

I dislike reading about guns, politics, food, cars, etc. as much as the next ham on my BBS. I also am not interested in earthquakes, wx observations, AMSAT keps, and a lot of the other more ham-like stuff on the BBS. My local BBS SYSOP, KM6PX, has written software that allows users to scan listings of only those topics they want (from the @XXX part of the address. Thus, I can scan and read the BBS related stuff to ALL@BBS but nothing else if I don't want to. Its great, no more endless scrolling through the tons of WANT or SALE or other such traffic!

But what of the type of censorship AB6GQ says is required by Part 97? Regardless of the nature of the traffic, it has always been hard to define "related to and of interest to amateur radio..." When I first got interested in ham radio, in the 60's, I remember listening to guys harranging in a blantent broadcasting manner about the "international socialist conspiracy on 20M. I always wondered why they were not shut down. Commie take-over sure interested them!

They wern't shut down for the reason the guns/politics/etc. packet posters should not (IMHO) be shut down: It is a lot easier regulate what one can't

do then to try to regulate what one can do. As hams, we can't transmit commercially and we can't use profanity (the seven dirty words of George Carlin fame). Other than that, I feel it will be futile as well as not in our collective interest to try to control content beyond commercial/obscene material. It may be impolite to talk (or post) about religion, politics, food, guns, or earthquakes, (and as a SYSOP I may not want that stuff on my BBS) but I don't feel we as hams should be limited by regulations to only talking about "the advancement of radio art". Could this be a future QSO?:

"Yep, Vern, the new dipole is working fine. Say, the XYL went into the hospital today - - oops, can't talk about that 'cuz its not radio..."

or am I overreacting to AB6GQ's action over packet content?

As a potential BBS SYSOP, I strongly support the right of the SYSOP to remove material he/she feels is offensive or illegal. It's their BBS. Or remove material that doesn't meet the needs of the users. I think that traffic that even hints at commercial content should be bounced. If I get my BBS up, I will write a rather strong policy statment about what will and will not be allowed on my BBS as a README.NOW. But I will feel a great loss if, via the ARRL OO program or FCC efforts, I can only post or talk in QSO about technical/engineering or other strictly ham items. Life will truly be boring then and ham radio will loose it's most basic appeal for me - communication with others that crosses social, economic, and geopolitical barriers.

My suggestion to the group is that individuals write/email the ARRL with their views as well as potential solutions, hopefully short of narrow content specific FCC regulations or interpretations. It seems clear that the time has come to deal with the amount of irritating packet traffic. I just hope we don't end up limiting ourselves for the future by overreaction now.

Cheers to all,

Chuck - - N6RVL

Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)
Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento Voice: (916) 687-7993
10215 Davis Road, Suite B Fax: (916) 687-8611
Wilton, CA 95693 Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA

Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!

82. RE: [BBSSIG:103] FYI

From: ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 10:22:34 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941024102234.2040a8d9@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Someone obtained from ARRL copies of the FCC letters that Mr. Sober references. These copies were made available and arrived as a 3-part bulletin today. Having read the "source" documents I do not believe Mr. Sober interprets them correctly. Check your local PBBS and see if the letters are there - and then see what you think.

73
Carl

83. Re: [BBSSIG:119] he Did say In Direct Interest

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 94 09:42:59 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410240942.ZM24680@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Oct 24, 12:12am, Frank Garofalo wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:119] he Did say In Direct Interest
> But Greg the FCC did say it !
>

> *****>

> > Section 97.3(a)(23) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. / 97.3(a)(23), is
> > clear that the information bulletin must be directed only to amateur
> > operators and must consist of subject matter that is of direct interest to
> > the amateur service. In other words, the sender must want the information

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> > bulletin to received only by amateur operators. Further, the content of the
> > information bulletin must concern a topic that is in some way related to,
or
> > connected with, the amateur service so that it fulfills the requirement of
> > the definition that it be of "direct interest" to the amateur service.
> *****
> [ STUFF DELETED ]
>
> > I trust this reply is responsive to your inquiry.
> >
> > Sincerely,
> > John B. Johnson
> > Chief, Personal Radio Branch
> >
> >
> > =====
> >
> Am I reading these out of order or something? I see it as the FCC
> addressing the issue of.." in the direct interest of the Amateur Service --
>
> Sorry to keep harping on this but I really do see it as a threat.

```

This is John Johnson's opinion of what he thinks section 97.3 means.
 Perhaps the FCC will issue a clarification, perhaps not.
 In any case, 97.3 says what it says, not what someone at the FCC interprets
 it to say. Guess we EACH have to read part 97 and decide how we will
 run our stations ... as has always been true.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
 Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
 Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

84. Re: [BBSSIG:106] Bulletin from AB6GQ@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM

From: dme@ingersoll.com (Dave Ewaldz N9HKM)
 Date: Mon, 24 Oct 94 08:39:52 CDT
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <9410241539.AA11456@ingersoll.com>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

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>I will be working with Dave Wolf, W05H, and the TAPR BBS SIG to generate a
>TAPR response to the message that Fred Sober posted. It seems that many of

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Good show Greg, I was hoping posting the message here would not start a flame
 fest, but to generate some level headed discussion, and hopefully, an
 official TAPR response. I didn't mean to upset Barry either. I will say that
 no one laughed Barry off stage in Minn. and the sysops present did fully
 listen to what he said. This matter needs to be handled carefully in order to
 not open a can of worms with the FCC. Like Greg said, we are in danger of
 losing UHF/SHF freqs., and a bunch of wining hams don't help the odds in our
 favor of keeping freqs. I do believe this matter needs to be discussed, as
 in my area in the midwest there are plenty of confused hams helter-skelter
 bit bucketing messages because of their interpretation of the rules.

--

Dave Ewaldz INGERSOLL MILLING MACHINE CO.
 N9HKM Rockford, Illinois, USA

Internet - dme@ingersoll.com
 Amprnet - n9hkm@n9hkm.ampr.org@ke9yq.ampr.org
 Ma-Bell - (815)-987-6081
 Packet ax25 mail - n9hkm@n9hkm.#ncil.il.usa.noam

85. Re: [BBSSIG:125] Direct Interest

From: laborde@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
 Date: Mon, 24 Oct 94 10:29:00 PDT
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <9410241729.AB23196@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

```

>And nothing prohibits us from talking about gun control,
>abortion, or whatever other pet peeves and topics we'd like to discuss. It
>no longer has to be "of direct interest" to radio amateurs.

```


Luck,

No longer has to be of direct interest to the amateur radio service. Gun control seems to be of direct interest to MANY radio amateurs. ;-)

Thanks for your insightful (inciteful? ;-) comments.

-Greg

--

Gregory R. LaBorde - KD6MSM	Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
Jet Propulsion Laboratory	AMPRNet : kd6msm@jpl-gw.w6vio.ampr.org
Systems Engineering - Galileo OET	Packet : KD6MSM@W6VIO.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
M/S 264-805 4800 Oak Grove Drive	Phone : (818) 393-1107
Pasadena, CA 91109	

86. Re: [BBSSIG:123] Ole Farts Syndrome

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 13:17:23 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941024130011.8606B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 24 Oct 1994 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

> Barry: Roger!
>
> Look, don't be hitting yourself so hard about the head and shoulders region.
> Most of those who've been licensed for a while have had to contend with the
> way newcomers differ now from what they were like when you and I were first
> licensed.
>
> But that's GOOD. Times change. Society changes. We can as well.

Please say that again!

> And yes, there's a bunch of loudmouthed wags that insist that ARRL "created"
> the codeless license merely to sell more books and (in the wag's minds) so as
> to increase ARRL's market share for everything from the VEC program to the
> Amateur Auxiliary.
>
> I see it from an entirely different viewpoint. . . . the way I see it, the
> Amateur Radio Service had for DECADES been a good ole boys club of people
> wanting nothing much else, other than helping themselves to a few billion
> bucks of spectrum so as to play, occasionally experiment, and even more
> rarely do a bit of public service.

Since I am a VE and have made many new codeless hams, I know from personal Experience that the codeless hams are pumping new blood into the nearly dead ham radio body.

It is my view-point that codeless hams are a thing of now. We are making a lot of them. Sales of uhf/vhf HT's are booming. Sales of hf rigs are slow. So what?

>
> Lo and behold, along came Part 97. Particularly the part that speaks of the
> whys and wherefores. That is, WHY we're allowed the exceptional amount of
> freedom as radio amateurs, WHY regulations are crafted to be less (rather
> than more) restrictive, and yes, WHY such an expensive piece of real estate
> is virtually given to us.
>
> Is it any WONDER that society figured it all out on their own? Isn't it
> crystal clear WHY the newcomers to the Amateur Radio Service are different
> now from the way we at least perceived ourselves when WE started?
>

Most of our new potential codeless hams show up clutching a ARRL or RADIO SHACK book that is well used and written in. Yesterday we had 13 people try for the codeless license. Four made it. Five passed element 2 but failed element 3a. Four failed both elements. To those I hear saying we are giving away the codeless license I say "talk to the 9 who didn't make it yesterday".

> the newcomers. I would far prefer it if we'd each take a moment to show the
> Jane newcomers why her latest posting on the local PBBS doesn't quite fit the
> norm, or help Johnnie Newbie with his autoexec.NOS file. Instead, some of us
> just bellyache all day (and night) long about what's wrong with the

> newcomers. I'm not sure that it's the new folks that have it all wrong, hi.

Me too. I get guys all the time on my bbs or jnos asking "how do I get the software for nos?". I love replying "Call me at 524-3303 and set up a time when you can come over. Bring a few disks". I meet a lot of hams that way and to date, I see no degradation in quality.

>
> 73
>
> -----
> Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
> Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA
>
> -karl k5di

87. Re: [BBSSIG:130] Re: Direct Interest

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 94 12:55:23 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0qzVZe-0001J6C@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
>From: KY1TLuck@aol.com

>What we need to remember about the matter of "direct interest to the Amateur
>Radio Service" is that it's only relative to the legality of one way
>transmissions.

>In other words, when K1MAN is NOT in conversation with another amateur, but
>belches forth for half an hour about non-amateur matters, that's when Part 97
>kicks in. And for good reason.

To me this is a gray area. Is not K1MAN using an amateur frequency and as such, presumably addressing an amateur radio audience? If we forget the technicality of TNC to TNC acks, is a 10,500 part bulletin reciting the bible, and addressed to RELIGION any different? If it's a violation of Part 97 to hold forth on 20M phone and recite the bible, but not on packet, then perhaps Part 97 should be modified to allow the same consideration for the non-packet modes.

>The other important thing to remember is that the rules are crafted, as a
>rule, with flexibility in mind. Flexibility to serve the public in whatever
>ways we think best. And the recent rule changes are even more clearly being
>established with that in mind.

Bulletins addressed to HUMOR or FOOD and (usually) containing non-acknowledged copywrited material are serving an amateur audience, not the "public".

>Where once we had the collective thought in mind that "nothing's legal unless
>it's specifically allowed for in the rules", now we have the opposite
>(wonderful) situation whereby everything's allowed unless specifically
>prohibited. And nothing prohibits us from talking about gun control,
>abortion, or whatever other pet peeves and topics we'd like to discuss. It
>no longer has to be "of direct interest" to radio amateurs.

>LH

I think the main concern by some on this issue is over bulletin content versus their interpretation of Part 97 regarding one-way transmission. If disregarding the ACK-ACK between TNCs, then many bulletins would clearly violate the "amateur related content" requirement since often these are sent as "information" rather than to elicit a 2-way response.

Since the FCC hasn't been sending out NAL's over this issue, it apparently does not concern them. What does matter then, is what concerns us. As an amateur group do we, as some on here have hinted, want ZERO restraints on message content? Or should we call for self-governing guidelines?

People being individuals with varying levels of maturity would certainly bring material considered by some as highly offensive into the system if zero restraints were allowed. Zero restraints could lead to unanticipated consequences. For instance strong and continued anti-government bulletins on our "amateur network" could influence governmental decisions relating to retention of our frequencies as well as other matters of concern to us. Should our packet bbs network continue to drift towards a no-hold barred, any topic goes forum, will we as a group be perceived as a viable mature public service organization?

On the other hand, if we support the position that packet bulletins addressed to a "group" contain amateur related material, what do we lose? MOST of the present traffic coming through IS amateur related. Thus for those who like to see a high daily traffic count on their boards, there would be little impact. For those interested in GUNS, ABORTION, PANTIES, FOOD, etc., this information is readily available from a number of other sources. With VERY few exceptions, absence from our system wouldn't deprive anyone. To the individuals who find amateur related topics boring, would they join a model railroad group to learn about non-model railroad topics?

We have come to a cross-road where we can influence public opinion as to whether or not our hobby is composed of mature, responsible individuals. Which way do we *really* want to go?

73 de Jack

88. Re: [BBSSIG:131] Re: Ole Farts Syndrome

From: srbible@cs.nps.navy.mil (Steven R. Bible)
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 1994 19:31:25 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410250241.AA14757@taurus.cs.nps.navy.mil>
Rendered body type: text/plain

[stuff deleted]

> Me too. I get guys all the time on my bbs or jnos asking "how do
>I get the software for nos?". I love replying "Call me at 524-3303 and
>set up a time when you can come over. Bring a few disks". I meet a lot of
>hams that way and to date, I see no degradation in quality.
>
>-karl k5di
>

Bravo!! Make house calls too. Has always made a difference to those that I helped. Old timers and new-comers alike.

Steve, N7HPR

srbible@cs.nps.navy.mil
Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943

89. FW: Regional Octothorpe

From: Jim Fortney <fortney@lcsipdp.litton.com>
Date: Mon, 24 Oct 94 23:49:28 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.00.941025004003.fortney@SLIP2.litton.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-----Original Message-----

Look over this list and see if you can id the regional octothorpe being used in each state and if we left any out.

What is needed is a simple word(s) that describes the geographic area that the octothorpe represents.

Send them to dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

LIST DELETED

-----End of Original Message-----

Greg, et all..

For whatever it is worth, when I proposed the Regional / Area Designator several years ago, the Standard defined for construction of the Designator was:

#xxxss	where:	#	(the octathorpe) was always in the first position
		xxx	was local option but was suggested to be indicative
			of location within State. (e.g., NO=North, WE=West,
			SO=South, EA=East, NE=Northeast, SE=Southeast,
			SW=Southwest, NW=Northwest, CEN=Central, etc) We have
			also used this field to identify sub-nets within the
			State, such as the sub-network supported by Los Angeles
			County Disaster Services (#LACCA), and ARRL Sections
			within the State (#SBACA). The latter two are actually

sub-area Designators and are used in the H-addr as follows:

N6YLA@K6CPT.#LACCA.#SOCA.CA.USA

ss is the two-character State or Province Designator. (The decision to include the two-character State Code in the Regional/Area Designator despite the fact that it was usually redundant was to minimize duplicate Regional/Area Designators. We felt that this approach was required until all of the BBS software was changed to parse the H-addr from major to minor.)

I have not checked recently, but a survey in 1992 indicated that 9 of the 11 WESTNET States were using Designators of this form (although not 100%), and that there were a total of 28 States and 3 Provinces that had Regional/Area Designators formatted to the Standard.

I do encourage TAPR to endorse a Standard for the format of the Regional/Area Designator, but I believe it is inappropriate to try and maintain a listing of what all those designators are. I believe this is at a level in the addressing scheme that regional system users should be allowed to create whatever Designators are needed as long as they follow the format Standard.

Name: Jim Fortney, K6IYK
Internet: fortney@litton.com (Jim Fortney)

President, Valley Emergency Radio Association (VERA)
Organizational Director, Southern California Digital Communication Council (SCDCC)
Administrative Director, SCDCC
President, 220MHz Spectrum Management Association of Southern California (220SMA)
Member, ARRL Spectrum Management Committee
Member, ARRL 219 MHz Planning Committee
Coordinator, WESTNET BBS Listing

90. FBB phone fwding.....

From: Brian Ellse <briane@iaccess.za>
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 1994 13:14:05 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: FBB@iaccess.za
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410251330.A181-0100000@goofy.iaccess.za>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

Me again from South Africa. I have now got FBB running with BPQ node thanks to all the help I got via this group. I have started forwarding on a daily basis via telephone, using the FBBIOS driver and it works well. One small problem is that it doesn't seem to want to forward in Compressed mode, and as my forwarding is done over long-distance, the 40-50% reduction in time that compressed fwding offers would be greatly appreciated. The radio forwarding goes into Compressed mode automatically, so I can't see why the phone fwding doesn't do the same.

I know about the string containing the [FBB etctctct], but it seems to generate a different string when forwarding by phone, as to what it generates on radio fwding.

Any suggestions will be well received this end.

91. FBB Telephone fwding.....

From: briane@goofy.iaccess.za (Brian Ellse)
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 1994 13:33:10 +0200
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0qzkh2-0000bZC@goofy.iaccess.za>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

Thanks to all the help I received out here recently, I now have my BBS up and running. I am doing forwarding by telephone and it works well with only one minor problem. I can't seem to get it to forward in compressed mode.

My forwarding partner is also running FBB (both of us v5.15c) and the compressed mode works well on radio forwarding. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to forward continuously on radio, and therefore make use of the telephone method, using the FBBIOS.COM driver.

Any suggestions on how I can overcome this problem by getting the telephone forwarding done on compressed mode. It seems that the [FBB etc etc] identifier that is sent via the radio port, is different to that which is sent via the modem port.

Another funny is that if I put the IF MAN or IF H=17 commands in the FORWARD.SYS file, it refuses to work if I try and manually initiate the phone forwarding by using the F4 key, or if the 17h hour comes up.

Any suggestions to these two problems will be greatly received here in Darkest Africa.

Many Thanks
Brian
ZR5DTS@ZR5DTS.NTL.ZAF.AF

92. Looking for HF BBS Help

From: "Chuck Pullen" <cpullen@netcom.com>
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 94 07:49:10 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <42295.cpullen@netcom14.netcom.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Greetings All...

I am looking to set up a HF BBS and would like to get in touch with an APLINK or WINLINK system operator to discuss system setup and operation. If you any experiance with HF BBSSs, please contact me.

Thanks,

Chuck, N6RVL

Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)
Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento Voice: (916) 687-7993
10215 Davis Road, Suite B Fax: (916) 687-8611
Wilton, CA 95693 Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA

Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!

93. Re: [BBSSIG:135] FBB phone fwding.....

From: Klarsen <klarsen@accca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 1994 08:54:14 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941025084855.21546A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 25 Oct 1994, Brian Ellse wrote:

> Hi,
>
> Me again from South Africa. I have now got FBB running with BPQ node
> thanks to all the help I got via this group. I have started forwarding on
> a daily basis via telephone, using the FBBIOS driver and it works well.
> One small problem is that it doesnt seem to want to forward in Compressed
> mode, and as my forwarding is done over long-distance, the 40-50%
> reduction in time that compressed fwding offers would be greatly
> appreciated. The radio forwarding goes into Compressed mode
> automatically, so I cant see why the phone fwding doesnt do the same.
>
> I know about the string containing the [FBB etctctct], but it seems to
> generate a different string when forarding by phone, as to what it
> generates on radio fwding.
>
> Any suggestions will be well received this end.
>
>
>

Brian, John-Paul intentionally does not use his arciving on the telephone side because he assumes your using a 9600 - 28,800 bps modem with V.42 on the fly arciving. For example, with my US Robotics Sportster 14,400 bps modem I get 38,400 bps throughput with plain text like the bbs messages.

Hope this helps.

-karl k5di

94. Re: [BBSSIG:136] FBB Telephone fwding.....

From: Dean R Madsen <dmdasen@iastate.edu>
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 1994 09:59:05 CDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410251459.AA16429@pv6f27.vincent.iastate.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Hi,
>
>Thanks to all the help I received out here recently, I now have my BBS up
>and running. I am doing forwarding by telephone and it works well with only
>one minor problem. I cant seem to get it to forward in compressed mode.
>
>My forwarding partner is also running FBB (both of us v5.15c) and the
>compressed mode works well on radio forwarding. Unfortunately, I am not
>in a position to forward continuously on radio, and therefore make use of the
>telephone method, using the FBBIOS.COM driver.
>
>Any suggestions on how I can overcome this problem by getting the telephone
>forwarding done on compressed mode. It seems that the [FBB etc etc] identifier
>that is sent via the radio port, is different to that which is sent via the
>modem port.

FBB will not use compressed forwarding over a modem port. If you are using a fast modem with MNP or V.42bis compression then FBB compression is not needed. Also, it would likely take more time for one end of the forward to compress each message and the receiving end to decompress each message than it would just to send things straight through using no compression.

>
>Another funny is that if I put the IF MAN or IF H=17 commands in the
>FORWARD.SYS file, it refuses to work if I try and manually initiate the
>phone forwarding by using the F4 key, or if the 17h hour comes up.
>

The F4 key will not work for the IF MAN statement. You have to use the FR command while logged on the local console.

>Any suggestions to these two problems will be greatly received here in
>Darkest Africa.
>
>Many Thanks
>Brian
>ZR5DTS@ZR5DTS.NTL.ZAF.AF
>

73,
Dean - KE0WO

```
+++++
+ Dean R Madsen, KE0WO                      Computer Engineering Major      +
+ Internet: dmdasen@iastate.edu              Iowa State Univeristy         +
+      ke0wo@iastate.edu                    Ames, Iowa                   +
+ AX25: KE0WO @ KE0WO.#NWIA.IA.USA.NA      +
+      Secretary for the Tristate Amateur Packet Association             +
+      Treasurer for the Cyclone Amateur Radio Club                      +
+++++
```

95. Who's using Clover for fwd'ing

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 1994 09:46:04 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410251644.JAA23910@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'm slowly getting N6EEG BBS back into HF fwd'ing and I am considering Clover operation. Since the investment is substantial, I like to first determine how many BBS's are using this mode.

Please reply (off net) to MPFahmie@LBL.GOV, listing callsign and freq(s) used. I will post a follow-up note in a week or so with a compilation of the replies I receive.

Tnx,

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

96. Re: [BBSSIG:140] Who's using Clover for fwd'ing

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 94 09:57:03 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410250957.ZM1886@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Oct 25, 11:51am, Mike Fahmie wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:140] Who's using Clover for fwd'ing
>
> I'm slowly getting N6EEG BBS back into HF fwd'ing and I am considering
> Clover operation. Since the investment is substantial, I like to first
> determine how many BBS's are using this mode.
>
> Please reply (off net) to MPFahmie@LBL.GOV, listing callsign and freq(s)
> used. I will post a follow-up note in a week or so with a compilation of
> the replies I receive.
>
> Tnx,
>
> Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
> Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory
>
>-- End of excerpt from Mike Fahmie

There is a substantial CLOVER network on HF now ... perhaps two
dozen of us. Can move traffic to "anywhere" via CLOVER.

You might ask John, N6IYA how well his system works ...
He's your closest CLOVER gateway.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.U.S.A.NOAM	

97. TAPR Guide to BBS Operation

From: "Chuck Pullen" <cpullen@netcom.com>
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 94 12:00:10 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <56006.cpullen@netcom14.netcom.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Greetings All:

I saw in a file I downloaded that this book/file was under development.
Is it done and, if so, where could I find it?

Thanks for your help.

Chuck
N6RVL

Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)	
Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento	Voice: (916) 687-7993
10215 Davis Road, Suite B	Fax: (916) 687-8611
Wilton, CA 95693	Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.U.S.A.NA

Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!

Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)	
Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento	Voice: (916) 687-7993
10215 Davis Road, Suite B	Fax: (916) 687-8611
Wilton, CA 95693	Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.U.S.A.NA

Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!

98. Re: [BBSSIG:142] TAPR Guide to BBS Operation

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 94 18:02:19 CDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410252302.AA127549@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> Greetings All:
>
> I saw in a file I downloaded that this book/file was under development.
> Is it done and, if so, where could I find it?
>
> Thanks for your help.
>
> Chuck
> N6RVL
>
>
>

Chuck: thanks for the inquiry. Substantial work has been done on this work (it began in earnest after the DCC in August). As soon as a completion date is in site, more specifics (how much, how to obtain, release date, etc.) will be announced here and elsewhere. It, like virtually all of TAPR's special projects, is a volunteer effort and this effort is certainly appreciated!

Dave Wolf W05H
BBS SIG Chair

99. Re: [BBSSIG:142] TAPR Guide to BBS Operation

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 1994 19:37:31 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410260037.TAA15259@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Nope. We hope to have it completed in the next month or so....that includes the printing process and we have to finish up the disk we want to go with it.

Thanks for asking - keep an eye on tapr-bb and the TAPR Packet Status Register.

Greg

According to Chuck Pullen:

>
>
>
>
> Greetings All:
>
> I saw in a file I downloaded that this book/file was under development.
> Is it done and, if so, where could I find it?
>
> Thanks for your help.
>
> Chuck
> N6RVL
>
>
>
> Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)
> Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento Voice: (916) 687-7993
> 10215 Davis Road, Suite B Fax: (916) 687-8611
> Wilton, CA 95693 Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA
>
> Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!
>
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>
>
> Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)
> Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento Voice: (916) 687-7993
> 10215 Davis Road, Suite B Fax: (916) 687-8611
> Wilton, CA 95693 Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA
>

> Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!
>
>

100. Re: [BBSSIG:137] Looking for HF BBS Help

From: Bill Healy <healy@ee.unr.edu>
Date: Tue, 25 Oct 94 17:46:37 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410260044.AA05653@solstice>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> I am looking to set up a HF BBS and would like to get in touch with
> an APLINK or WINLINK system operator to discuss system setup and operation.
> If you any experiance with HF BBSs, please contact me.

When did the rules change to allow unattended HF operation? I thought only stations with a STA were currently allowed unattended operation.

Bill N8KHN

101. Re: [BBSSIG:140] Who's using Clover for fwd'ing

From: briane@goofy.iaccess.za (Brian Ellse)
Date: Wed, 26 Oct 1994 09:12:27 +0200
To: bbssig@tapr.org, MPFahmie@lbl.gov, hank_oredson@MENTOR.COM
Message-ID: <m0r038P-0000cFC@goofy.iaccess.za>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Here in South Africa, my forwarding partner, Z55S (Joost) forwards on Clover. He runs an F6FBB BBS, and beams USA (Clover mode) from 0400UTC to 1600UTC, scanning 7, 14 and 21 megs. He advises me that there are about 20 stations operating Clover mode from the USA, two from South Africa.

He is not on the Internet (yet!) but has requested that I assist him to find another forwarding partner in the USA, since his last partner (in Florida) has moved to a condo, and no longer operates HF forwarding.

Any responses to this request will be greatly appreciated. Skeds can be arranged within 24 hrs via the Internet, so heres hoping.....

73's de Brian
ZR5DTS@ZR5DTS.NTL.ZAF.AF

102. Just FYI: FCC Rules changes for the VE program

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Wed, 26 Oct 94 11:09:00 EDT
To: TAPR BBSSIG <BBSSIG@tapr.org>,
 "'Finke, Carl (Texas PRS)'" <CARL.FINKE@meipws.mis.mei.com>,
 "'Snodgrass, Jack, KF5MG'" <kf5mg@kf5mg.ampr.org>,
 'TNOS FAQ' <listserv@lantz.cftnet.com>, TAPR NETSIG <NETSIG@tapr.org>,
 'NOS-BBS Mailing List' <nos-bbs@hydra.carleton.CA>,
 "'TAPR PSR (Bob Hansen)'" <psr@tapr.org>, TAPR-BB <TAPR-BB@tapr.org>,
 TCP-Group <TCP-GROUP@UCSD.EDU>
Message-ID: <2EAE7205@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Jahnke, Bart, KB9NM
To: 'arrl-ve-list'
Subject: FCC Rules changes for the VE Program - E
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 1994 17:47

The following was released yesterday (Oct 24) as an ARRL Bulletin:

FCC LICENSING CHANGES

The FCC today released a 7-page Order amending its amateur rules, effective December 20, 1994, to reflect what the Commission calls "nonsubstantive procedural changes":

- 1) To permit electronically filed data from VECs (paper applications will still be accepted);
- 2) To authorize operation as soon as the new license data appears in the amateur service licensee data base, rather than (as now) when the license document has been delivered (details of how the new licensee can determine his call sign will be announced later);
- 3) To add a new rules section, "Examinee Conduct," to emphasize that an examinee must comply with the instructions given by the administering VEs;

4) To treat "Technician Plus" as a license class;

5) And to provide for a "renewal short form," which the FCC says will be mailed to licensees in advance of their expiration date beginning sometime in 1995.

Because of the nature of these rule amendments, there's no notice or comment period required by federal law. These changes do not take effect until December 20, 1994.

In addition, a new FCC Form, specifically FCC Form 610-R--a license-renewal short form, will be used by the Commission's in sending license expiration notifications directly to licensees. Regarding renewals, the text of notice also stipulates, "The application must be submitted no more than 90 days before its expiration to: FCC...". Therefore, beginning December 20, 1994, no renewal application will be considered until the license has the last 3 months remaining of it's 10-year term.

103. Re: [BBSSIG:145] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help

From: "Chuck Pullen" <cpullen@netcom.com>
Date: Wed, 26 Oct 94 09:05:33 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <46469.cpullen@netcom4.netcom.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 25 Oct 94 19:50 CDT,
Bill Healy <healy@ee.unr.edu> wrote:

>When did the rules change to allow unattended HF operation? I thought only
>stations with a STA were currently allowed unattended operation.
>
>Bill N8KHN

>
Bill, they haven't changed as of today. The comment period on the notice of potential rule making regarding unattended digital HF ops closes this week, I think. Of course, who knows when the FCC will do final rulemaking. I want to get something up and running, attended, until such time. My ultimate goal is to set up an HF/Internet email gateway with appropriate controls for full regulatory compliance. As this will take a while, I need all the lead time I can get...

Hope this answers your comment.

Chuck

Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)
Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento Voice: (916) 687-7993
10215 Davis Road, Suite B Fax: (916) 687-8611
Wilton, CA 95693 Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA

Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!

104. Re: [BBSSIG:145] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 26 Oct 94 10:21:17 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410261021.ZM2746@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Oct 25, 7:50pm, Bill Healy wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:145] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help
> > I am looking to set up a HF BBS and would like to get in touch with
> > an APLINK or WINLINK system operator to discuss system setup and operation.
> > If you any experiance with HF BBSSs, please contact me.
>
> When did the rules change to allow unattended HF operation? I thought only
> stations with a STA were currently allowed unattended operation.
>
> Bill N8KHN
>
>
>-- End of excerpt from Bill Healy

I have a little problem with this statement ... looked over the text above, and did NOT see any reference to "unattended operation."

A little problem with reading, Bill ? (giggle)

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

105. ET Docket No. 94-32 News Release

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Wed, 26 Oct 1994 12:58:52 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing), tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing)
Message-ID: <199410261758.MAA27208@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Report No. DC-2666

October 20, 1994

COMMISSION PROPOSES ALLOCATION OF SPECTRUM TRANSFERRED FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PRIVATE SECTOR (ET DOCKET NO. 94-32)

The Commission today adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making that proposes to convert a large block of spectrum from Federal Government to commercial use. This spectrum would be made available for a variety of new services, creating new business opportunities and employment.

The Commission has proposed a general allocation to the Fixed and Mobile services for 50 megahertz of spectrum identified by the Department of Commerce for transfer from Federal Government use to private sector use. The Commission said the proposed allocations will benefit the public by providing for the introduction of new services or the enhancement of existing services.

In compliance with the provisions of Title VI of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, the Department of Commerce released a report on February 10, 1994, which made preliminary identification of 200 megahertz of spectrum for reallocation from Federal Government to private sector use, including 50 megahertz at 2390-2400 MHz, 2402-2417 MHz, and 4660-4685 MHz that is immediately available. The Reconciliation Act requires the Commission to adopt rules by February 10, 1995, to allocate the spectrum.

The Commission stated that its principal objective when making spectrum allocation decisions is to ensure that the spectrum is put to its best use. The Commission proposed to achieve this goal by proposing a broad and general allocation to the Fixed and Mobile services for all three frequency bands. Such an approach, the Commission said, would allow for flexible use of these bands so that licenses would be able to offer a wide range of services employing a variety of technologies. The Commission requested comment on this approach.

The Commission also believes that most of the services to be provided in this spectrum would likely meet the statutory criteria for auctions. Therefore, the Commission proposed to make licenses for this spectrum available through competitive bidding to the extent possible and practicable.

The Commission seeks to create a competitive market structure that would promote reasonable prices for users and provide operators with incentives to develop and introduce innovative service features and technologies. The Commission requests comment on an appropriate licensing structure, including channel block size and geographic licensing areas.

The Commission also proposed to allow technical flexibility in the provision of services. Specifically, the Commission proposed to allow users to choose the channelization, signal strength, modulation techniques and antenna characteristics in providing service, consistent with not causing interference to other users. Interference to operations in adjacent service areas would be controlled through power limits at the service area boundaries. Licensees would also be free to negotiate and

develop agreements for interference conditions at the boundaries between their service areas. Comments are requested on these proposals.

As an alternative to allocating this spectrum generally for Fixed and Mobile services, the Commission requested comment on the possible allocation of these bands for specific communications services. A number of suggestions were put forth by various commenters responding to the Notice of Inquiry (NOI) in this proceeding. There include an aeronautical audio/video service to provide real-time information and entertainment aboard aircraft, wireless local loop service, broadcast auxiliary services to support advanced television, low-power communications, and continued use of some of this spectrum by the amateur community.

Action by the Commission October 20, 1994, by Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 94-272). Chairman Hundt, Commissioners Quello, Barrett, Ness and Chong.

News Media contact: Susan Sallet and Patricia A. Chew at (202) 418-0500.
Office of Engineering and Technology contact: Steve Sharkey at (202) 653-8151.

```
-----
Dwayne Hendricks, WA8DZP ! CIS: 75210.10   AppleLink: D6547
Tetherless Access Ltd.   ! Packet Radio: WA8DZP @ K3MC.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM
43730 Vista Del Mar      ! AOL: HENDRICKS
Fremont, CA 94539-3204    ! Internet: dwayne@tetherless.com
Phone: (510) 659-0809     ! Fax: (510) 770-9854
-----
```

106. Re: [BBSSIG:114] BULLETIN IMPORTERS

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Wed, 26 Oct 1994 14:19:40 -0400 (EDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410261819.AA26703@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hmmmm got quiet all of a sudden.
73
--
Frank
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

107. ADRS BBS Phone Number?

From: "Chuck Pullen" <cpullen@netcom.com>
Date: Wed, 26 Oct 94 16:10:14 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <69683.cpullen@netcom14.netcom.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All...

Does anyone have the current phone number for the Amateur Digital Radio Society BBS? The old number (212) 698-2102, has been disconnected.

Thanks,

Chuck, N6RVL

Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)
Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento Voice: (916) 687-7993
10215 Davis Road, Suite B Fax: (916) 687-8611
Wilton, CA 95693 Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA

Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!

108. Re: [BBSSIG:149] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help

From: Bill Healy <healy@ee.unr.edu>
Date: Thu, 27 Oct 94 1:46:58 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410270844.AA21345@solstice>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> On Oct 25, 7:50pm, Bill Healy wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:145] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help
> > > I am looking to set up a HF BBS and would like to get in touch with
> > > an APLINK or WINLINK system operator to discuss system setup and operation.
> > > If you any experiance with HF BBSs, please contact me.

> >
> > When did the rules change to allow unattended HF operation? I thought only
> > stations with a STA were currently allowed unattended operation.
> >
> > Bill N8KHN
> >
> >
> >-- End of excerpt from Bill Healy
>
>
> I have a little problem with this statement ... looked over the
> text above, and did NOT see any reference to "unattended operation."
>
> A little problem with reading, Bill ? (giggle)

No Hank, I can read just fine. It's just that I know that there is no such thing as an attended BBS. It might start out that way, but then the operator gets a life and decides why should he stare at the screen and watch the same packets TX over and over and over again when they can just flip on the autopilot and walk away.

Reality, what a concept.....

Bill

109. Help requested for Alaskan ham

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Thu, 27 Oct 94 09:40:00 EDT
To: TAPR BBSSIG <BBSSIG@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EAFAEAS@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

GREETINGS! CAN ANYONE ON THE LIST SEND THIS GUY A DIRECT MESSAGE PROVIDING ANSWERS TO HIS QUESTIONS? THANX!

From: Michael R. Rice - IAR Network
Date: Thursday, October 27, 1994 12:17AM

The reason I write is to find some information to help our University club. Our club is primarily set up to send complementary NTS packet/voice messages for students and staff of the university.

So far things have been going well, but we've been encountering more and more traffic going to countries we have third-party agreements with. We have the info for packet NTS format that deals with Canada and the US, but have no way of providing proper routing info for traffic heading to third-party countries. An example of this was a piece of traffic going to Belize...with no ZIP/postal code and no idea of what two letters go after NTSxx, we're running into problems being effective for those we serve.

What ever info you can provide to help the effort up here will be greatly appreciated. Also any--and I do mean ANY--info you can provide on Internet<=>Packet gateways would be appreciated. I have WB7TPY's gate info, but he doesn't allow NTS traffic. With the aurora up here and poor propagation, Internet gateways are helpful to move the NTS traffic in bulk until conditions get better on HF.

-----> University Radiogram Service Association - URSA at UAF <-----

```

-----
: * * * * *
:*      73 de Mike -- AL7MI      *:
:*    University of Alaska Fairbanks  *:
:*                                     *:
:*    Packet/Internet Addresses     *:
:*    AL7MI @ KL7GNG.#NAK.AK.USA.NA *:
:*    fsmrr1@aurora.alaska.edu      *:
:* * * * * *
-----

```

110. Re: [BBSSIG:153] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help

From: "Chuck Pullen" <cpullen@netcom.com>
Date: Thu, 27 Oct 94 08:22:42 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <44127.cpullen@netcom14.netcom.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 27 Oct 94 03:56 CDT,
Bill Healy <healy@ee.unr.edu> wrote:

>> On Oct 25, 7:50pm, Bill Healy wrote:
>> > Subject: [BBSSIG:145] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help
>> > > I am looking to set up a HF BBS and would like to get in touch with
>> > > an APLINK or WINLINK system operator to discuss system setup and operation.
>> > > If you any experiance with HF BBSSs, please contact me.
>> >
>> > When did the rules change to allow unattended HF operation? I thought only
>> > stations with a STA were currently allowed unattended operation.
>> >
>> > Bill N8KHN
>> >
>> >
>> >-- End of excerpt from Bill Healy
>>
>>
>> I have a little problem with this statement ... looked over the
>> text above, and did NOT see any reference to "unattended operation."
>>
>> A little problem with reading, Bill ? (giggle)
>
>No Hank, I can read just fine. It's just that I know that there is no such
>thing as an attended BBS. It might start out that way, but then the
>operator gets a life and decides why should he stare at the screen and
>watch the same packets TX over and over and over again when they can just
>flip on the autopilot and walk away.
>
>Reality, what a concept.....
>
>
>Bill
>

Guys! As the person who orriginated this thread, let me say I really do mean ATTENDED operation. I am just experimenting with a couple of friends on a schedule. Yes, I am there watching the whole thing and I am on the phone to the guy on the other end. Thats it! I do not intend to violate ANY regulation!

So, my original qustion stands... I would still like to get in tough with anybody with WINLINK or APLINK BBS operation.

Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)
Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento Voice: (916) 687-7993
10215 Davis Road, Suite B Fax: (916) 687-8611
Wilton, CA 95693 Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA

Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!

111. Re: [BBSSIG:152] ADRS BBS Phone Number?

From: "Jay Townsend" <jayt@comtch.iew.com>
Date: Thu, 27 Oct 1994 08:30:39 -0700 (PDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: 69683.cpullen@netcom14j.netcom.com
Message-ID: <m0r0Wmm-000AjpC@comtch.iew.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

t>
> Does anyone have the current phone number for the Amateur Digital Radio
> Society BBS? The old number (212) 698-2102, has been disconnected.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Chuck, N6RVL

Sure. The new data line number is 706-694-3295 Dick W4KAU is the Sysop and his voice is 706-694-8369. At least according to the Digital Journal, I haven't tried it lately.

73
--
Jay Townsend, Ws7i <jayt@comtch.iew.com>
American Digital Radio Society

112. Re: [BBSSIG:155] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help

From: wx3k@w2air.ampr.org (John Zantek)
Date: Thu, 27 Oct 94 09:51:10 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410271651.AA07496@iserver.tcpet.uscg.mil>

Rendered body type: text/plain

>Guys! As the person who originated this thread, let me say I really do
>mean ATTENDED operation. I am just experimenting with a couple of friends
>on a schedule. Yes, I am there watching the whole thing and I am on the
>phone to the guy on the other end. Thats it! I do not intend to violate
>ANY regulation!
>
>So, my original question stands... I would still like to get in
>tough with anybody with WINLINK or APLINK BBS operation.
>
>Chuck Pullen, CIH (cpullen@netcom.com)
>Pacific Safety Solutions - Sacramento Voice: (916) 687-7993
>10215 Davis Road, Suite B Fax: (916) 687-8611
>Wilton, CA 95693 Packet: N6RVL@KM6PX.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA
>
> Vote early, vote often, vote Libertarian!

Contact Craig WA8DRZ@WA8DRZ.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM or
Gary W7DCR@W7DCR.OR.USA.NOAM.
They both run APLink stations with BIG signals and have for
several years.

```
--
*-----*
| John Zantek WX3K | Internet: jzantek@tcpet.uscg.mil |
| [44.4.40.104] | Packet: WX3K@WX3K.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM |
| Data 707 765 7016 | Amprnet: wx3k@w2air.ampr.org |
*-----*
```

113. Re: [BBSSIG:153] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 27 Oct 94 10:07:27 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410271007.ZM3285@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Oct 27, 3:55am, Bill Healy wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:153] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help
> > On Oct 25, 7:50pm, Bill Healy wrote:
> > > Subject: [BBSSIG:145] Re: Looking for HF BBS Help
> > > > I am looking to set up a HF BBS and would like to get in touch with
> > > > an APLINK or WINLINK system operator to discuss system setup and
> > > > operation.
> > > > If you any experiance with HF BBSs, please contact me.
> > >
> > > When did the rules change to allow unattended HF operation? I thought
> > > only
> > > stations with a STA were currently allowed unattended operation.
> > >
> > > Bill N8KHN
> > >
> > > >-- End of excerpt from Bill Healy
> > >
> > > I have a little problem with this statement ... looked over the
> > > text above, and did NOT see any reference to "unattended operation."
> > >
> > > A little problem with reading, Bill ? (giggle)
> > >
> > > No Hank, I can read just fine. It's just that I know that there is no such
> > > thing as an attended BBS. It might start out that way, but then the
> > > operator gets a life and decides why should he stare at the screen and
> > > watch the same packets TX over and over and over again when they can just
> > > flip on the autopilot and walk away.
> > >
> > > Reality, what a concept.....
> > >
> > > Bill
> > >
> > >-- End of excerpt from Bill Healy

Stupid assumptions about others motives and actions, what a concept!

... Hank

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

114. Re: [BBSSIG:154] Help requested for Alaskan ham

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 27 Oct 1994 20:19:36 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9410272002.A14839-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 27 Oct 1994, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:

```
> GREETINGS! CAN ANYONE ON THE LIST SEND THIS GUY A DIRECT MESSAGE PROVIDING
> ANSWERS TO HIS QUESTIONS? THANX!
> -----
> From: Michael R. Rice - IAR Network
> Date: Thursday, October 27, 1994 12:17AM
>
> The reason I write is to find some information to help our University
> club. Our club is primarily set up to send complementary NTS packet/voice
> messages for students and staff of the university.
> So far things have been going well, but we've been encountering more
> and more traffic going to countries we have third-party agreements with. We
> have the info for packet NTS format that deals with Canada and the US, but
> have no way of providing proper routing info for traffic heading to
> third-party countries. An example of this was a piece of traffic going to
> Belize...with no ZIP/postal code and no idea of what two letters go after
> NTSxx, we're running into problems being effective for those we serve.
```

NTS means National Traffic System, not world wide. NTS, as far as I know, doesn't exist outside of the US and CAN. Other countries may have their equivalent, but I think our NTS stays within US/CAN.

An interesting question, and I'm surprised I've never heard it come up before. Does someone else have better info?

Garv

115. Re: [BBSSIG:159] Re: Help requested for Alaskan ham

From: ae1t@marvin.plymouth.edu
Date: Fri, 28 Oct 94 18:00:31 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410282200.AA00565@marvin.plymouth.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> NTS means National Traffic System, not world wide. NTS, as far as I
> know, doesn't exist outside of the US and CAN. Other countries may have
> their equivalent, but I think our NTS stays within US/CAN.

```
> An interesting question, and I'm surprised I've never heard it come up
> before. Does someone else have better info?
```

NTS entities exist outside the US/Canada. One of the NTS "regions" is devoted to this. If anyone would like additional information I'll look it up.

Peter Drexel		
Department of Computer Science		ae1t@oz.plymouth.edu (Internet)
Plymouth State College		ae1t@ae1t.nh.usa.noam (Packet)
Plymouth, NH 03264		

116. Position Paper on Recent Bulletin Flap

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 28 Oct 94 18:11:42 CDT
To: bbssig@tcet.unt.edu
Message-ID: <9410282311.AA101895@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Position Paper on Packet Bulletins
Tucson Amateur Packet Radio
approved and released by the Board of Directors, October 28, 1994

There has been a recent flurry of activity on the packet networks as documented here on BBS SIG over some packet bulletins issued by Frederick Sober, AB6GQ, an Official Observer Coordinator in the Sacramento Valley section of the ARRL. The concern expressed by AB6GQ is that packet bulletins whose contents do not relate to amateur radio are in violation of Part 97. I have reviewed AB6GQ's bulletin, two letters from (FCC Personal Radio Branch Chief) Johnny Johnston, and discussed the matter personally with AB6GQ by phone on Sunday, October 23rd.

Here is a brief history of events, primarily reported by Frederick: in 1993 as an OO, AB6GQ was contacted by several local packet BBS sysops who were concerned over the content of bulletins addressed, for example, to ALL @ ALLUS, ALL @ WW, and so forth. The content of many of these bulletins did not include ham radio-related subject material, and they wondered if this was a violation of Part 97. According to Frederick, he contacted his section manager, who advised for him to get in touch with League headquarters. He was advised by a League Regulatory Information staffer to contact the FCC directly. Someone at the Hayward field office referred him to Washington. An exchange of correspondence with Johnny Johnston ensued (texts of Mr. Johnston's letters have been transcribed to the SIG from copies obtained by Greg Jones). AB6GQ has been advised that the League is going to 'undertake an educational effort' about which something will appear in QST after the first of the year. Frederick advises he is going to wait for further word through the League chain of command for his next, if any, action regarding packet bulletins.

Because the spark which created this particular packet 'crisis of the day' was a statement to other amateurs from an Official Observer Coordinator, and because there was a reported exchange of correspondence with an FCC branch chief, Greg Jones, President of TAPR, received numerous phone calls asking for TAPR's position on this matter. Greg discussed this situation with several League officials and other respected advisers prior to discussing it with the TAPR BoD. Subsequently, Greg requested that I draft this position statement for TAPR.

To be succinct, most of the flame wars and great debates over permissible communications exhibit a problem with semantics, not a lack of specificity in the rules. Packet* is not some mutant communications form that is not definable by the rules. Packet is no more or less privileged than any other form of amateur communications. (*packet is used here, but this argument extends to all legal forms of amateur digital communications which are used for the forwarding of bulletins)

Did you know that Part 97 comes complete with its own dictionary? 97.3 includes a list of definitions for the terms used in the document. Two definitions that are either overlooked or misinterpreted by many are 'broadcasting' and 'informational bulletin.' 'Broadcasting' specifically means transmissions intended for reception by the general public (see 97.3 (10)). The term 'informational bulletin,' defined by Part 97.3 (23) has no relation to what we refer to as a packet 'bulletin.' Part 97 defines an 'informational bulletin' as a one-way transmission to hams of a message of subject matter composed solely of interest to the amateur service. A good example of an informational bulletin is a transmission of ARRL bulletins from W1AW. To conclude that all of this means that a packet bulletin must be confined to amateur-only subject material is using terribly convoluted logic. Packet makes a poor choice for an informational bulletin anyway. W1AW doesn't use packet for bulletin dissemination. Packet, in its one-way mode, unproto, is a lousy way to transmit a bulletin (hmmm, maybe that's why W1AW doesn't use unproto for its transmissions...)! Except for unproto, there is no one-way packet mode. It takes two to tango. A packet bulletin is entered on a BBS from the originating station in a two-way communication. From then on out, that packet bulletin is a third-party message. If it gets forwarded from one BBS to another, it is a third-party message being forwarded during a two-way communication.

97.113 lists prohibited communications and their exceptions. There is no specific prohibition against content with potentially controversial or frivolous subject material. This particular 'crisis of the day' arose, as so many others have arisen, because of message content. There is general agreement that many of the bulletins traversing the network aren't worth the electricity used to forward them. Studies in several metropolitan areas show that over 70% of the bulletins NEVER get read. They just get listed. This means users are being very selective about what they read. They DO have a choice. So do sysops. The process of reducing the amount of what many of us consider to be 'noise' on our boards begins with each of us exercising leadership at home. If someone posts a SALE @ ALLUS bulletin on your board trying to unload a camping tent, tell them nicely that this isn't appropriate. If you have a religious fanatic or political alarmist climbing on the electronic soapbox (and that soapbox has your callsign stenciled on the side), it's time for a heart-to-heart. Easy? Not always. Whoever said that running a BBS was gonna be easy? What are you doing to get the word out that packet radio, while sometimes loose, is not a free-for-all. Ham radio, ALL facets of ham radio, because of the wide constituency we have, is a place where people have to be responsible. It's much harder to educate than legislate, but which do you think has the more effective results?

The lessons learned: If you've got a question about the rules, use the resources available to you WITHIN the amateur community INSTEAD of making an end run straight to the Commission. Document who you speak with and what was said. Get whatever you can in writing. Think of the potential impact on ALL of amateur radio when a small chunk of the overall activity (such as packet in relation to everything else) is the focus of possible new regulation or enforcement. This is not to suggest that the rules be violated or that anyone stick their head in the sand about abuses that may exist. It is better to try to take care of business ourselves, as we are encouraged to do in the rules, than to invite possible over-regulation by the FCC. This issue may be put to rest forever preferably by the League setting the record straight that packet bulletins are not one-way transmissions or broadcasting, and that 97.113 is explicit about permissible content of amateur communications.

Incidentally, I found AB6GQ to be very open about this incident and very surprised to find himself at the eye of a hurricane. He admits to a degree of initial naivety in his effort to be a responsible OO (and now an OOC). Frederick wants everyone to know that he and his team of OO's don't have a hidden agenda and most importantly, they aren't vigilantes. They wanted some answers to questions about packet bulletins. Some missteps and miscommunications (by numerous people) led to something being given far more relevance than it deserved.

submitted October 24, 1994
Dave Wolf W05H
TAPR BBS SIG Chair

117. Re: [BBSSIG:151] Re: BULLETIN IMPORTERS

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 28 Oct 94 18:17:33 CDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9410282317.AA101925@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> Hmmm got quiet all of a sudden.
> 73
> --
> Frank
> frankg@panix.com
> [your ad here]
>
Hi Frank, what's shakin?
Everyone's resting up for the weekend flurries.
73 de Dave W05H

118. Re: Help requested for Alaskan ham

From: imotion@iu.net (Howard Goldstein)
Date: Fri, 28 Oct 1994 19:54:00 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199410282359.TAA23375@bb.iu.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

"Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us> writes:

>On Thu, 27 Oct 1994, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:

>

>>

>> GREETINGS! CAN ANYONE ON THE LIST SEND THIS GUY A DIRECT MESSAGE PROVIDING
>> ANSWERS TO HIS QUESTIONS? THANX!

>> -----

>> From: Michael R. Rice - IAR Network

>> Date: Thursday, October 27, 1994 12:17AM

>>

>> The reason I write is to find some information to help our University
>> club. Our club is primarily set up to send complementary NTS packet/voice
>> messages for students and staff of the university.

>> So far things have been going well, but we've been encountering more
>> and more traffic going to countries we have third-party agreements with. We
>> have the info for packet NTS format that deals with Canada and the US, but
>> have no way of providing proper routing info for traffic heading to
>> third-party countries. An example of this was a piece of traffic going to
>> Belize...with no ZIP/postal code and no idea of what two letters go after
>> NTSxx, we're running into problems being effective for those we serve.

>

>NTS means National Traffic System, not world wide. NTS, as far as I
>know, doesn't exist outside of the US and CAN. Other countries may have
>their equivalent, but I think our NTS stays within US/CAN.

>

>An interesting question, and I'm surprised I've never heard it come up
>before. Does someone else have better info?

>

The NTS accepts overseas messages. Europe, Africa, and Mid-East are routed
to EAN and then probably to 4RN. At one time the overseas Pacific and W
region was routed to 4RN, but this has changed a few times and I'm not sure
where it goes (the region net NCSs will know).

N2WX

--

Howard Goldstein
InfoMotion, Inc.

--

imotion@iu.net
CIS:75006,702

119. RE: [BBSSIG:159] Re: Help requested for Alaskan ham

From: Jim Fortney <fortney@lcsipdp.litton.com>
Date: Fri, 28 Oct 94 22:18:14 PDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.00.941028222515.fortney@SLIP2.litton.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>

>

>On Thu, 27 Oct 1994, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:

>

>>

>> GREETINGS! CAN ANYONE ON THE LIST SEND THIS GUY A DIRECT MESSAGE PROVIDING
>> ANSWERS TO HIS QUESTIONS? THANX!

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>> From: Michael R. Rice - IAR Network

>> Date: Thursday, October 27, 1994 12:17AM

>>

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>> NTSxx, we're running into problems being effective for those we serve.

>

>NTS means National Traffic System, not world wide. NTS, as far as I
>know, doesn't exist outside of the US and CAN. Other countries may have
>their equivalent, but I think our NTS stays within US/CAN.

>

>An interesting question, and I'm surprised I've never heard it come up
>before. Does someone else have better info?

>
>Gary
>
>

I agree with Gary. The N in NTS means National. The NTS is an ARRL originated activity (in concert with the CRRL) and only supports the United States, Canada, and their possessions.

The best way I have found to send traffic to overseas destinations is to know the callsign of a BBS in the destination city. That doesn't guarantee delivery, but then neither does the NTS.

- Jim, K6IYK

November 1994

Original source file: bbssig.9411

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9411

1. (no subject)

From: cbremmer@fergus.cfa.org
Date: Thu, Nov 10, 1994 08:28:24 PM PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411110144.AA10556@fergus.cfa.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

unjoin bbssig

2. BPQ408.ZIP

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Sun, 13 Nov 1994 17:47:57 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411131049404@aznetig.stat.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,
BPQ408.ZIP Is Available from the F6FBB-SUPPORT BBS

+1-602-912-0225 300-28,800 Common Protocols

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Stat.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

3. Msg number rollover

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Mon, 14 Nov 94 14:06:14 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0r78rY-0001dXC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

We all waited with great expectations as our V5.15 FBB approached the 100,000 message number mark. Many of us have difficulty remembering/ inputing 5 digit message numbers when requesting a "read". We had hoped it would reset to zero. No such luck, sigh...it is now over 104,000 on the current message numbers, thus increasing the time and difficulty for users to read messages.

I don't know if this is a parameter that is sysop controllable, but it sure would be nice if maxed out at no more than 9,999.

73 de Jack

4. FBB hangs

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Mon, 14 Nov 94 13:55:03 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0r78rP-0001dSC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Our V5.15 FBB board experiences intermittent "hanging" after a user enters a message and gives either a control z or a /ex command. Typically the system accepts the message, then disconnects the user. The board then hangs for 10-15 minutes before allowing the user to reconnect. Connect attempts during this period are met with a "All ports are busy...." response.

Has anyone else noticed this problem and/or can recommend a fix for it?

73 de Jack

5. Re: [BBSSIG:167] Msg number rollover

From: mcduffie@unlinfo.unl.edu (Gary McDuffie Sr)
Date: Mon, 14 Nov 1994 16:17:46 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411142217.AA15905@unlinfo.unl.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Jack:

> We all waited with great expectations as our V5.15 FBB approached the
> 100,000 message number mark.

Why let it get that high? Renumber once or twice a year. I do mine every January 1. I'm sure others have more traffic than I have, but mine still reaches about 50k in that length of time.

> Many of us have difficulty remembering/
> inputing 5 digit message numbers when requesting a "read".

Don't you use ON?

> ...it is now over 104,000
> on the current message numbers, thus increasing the time and difficulty
> for users to read messages.

The users should be using ON also.

> I don't know if this is a parameter that is sysop controllable, but it
> sure would be nice if maxed out at no more than 9,999.

This would be too soon. It would lead to rejected traffic, due to the same bid repeating too soon.

Gary

6. Re: [BBSSIG:167] Msg number rollover

From: Dean R Madsen <dmadsen@iastate.edu>
Date: Mon, 14 Nov 1994 18:22:55 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411150022.AA00485@pv6f27.vincent.iastate.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>We all waited with great expectations as our V5.15 FBB approached the
>100,000 message number mark. Many of us have difficulty remembering/
>inputing 5 digit message numbers when requesting a "read". We had hoped
>it would reset to zero. No such luck, sigh...it is now over 104,000
>on the current message numbers, thus increasing the time and difficulty
>for users to read messages.
>
>I don't know if this is a parameter that is sysop controllable, but it
>sure would be nice if maxed out at no more than 9,999.
>

You have to run a renumber program to reset the message number. The program is available from ftp.funet.fi in the /pub/ham/packet/bbs/f6fbb/utlis directory as renumber.zip.

Another thing, if you and your users would use the ON command and do a ON 104 you could then enter R 100 200, etc when you would actually be reading message #'s 104100 & 140200

If you do decide to renumber, I would recommend running cleanup on the MAIL and BINMAIL directories before and after running renumber.

73,
Dean - KE0WO

```
+++++
+ Dean R Madsen, KE0WO                      Computer Engineering Major      +
+ Internet: dmadsen@iastate.edu              Iowa State Univeristy         +
+      ke0wo@iastate.edu                     Ames, Iowa                   +
+ AX25: KE0WO @ KE0WO.#NWIA.IA.USA.NA      +
+      Secretary for the Tristate Amateur Packet Association               +
+      Treasurer for the Cyclone Amateur Radio Club                       +
+++++
```

7. Re: [BBSSIG:167] Msg number rollover

From: makin@hhcs.gov.au (Carl Makin)
Date: Tue, 15 Nov 1994 11:17:41 +1100
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199411150032.LAA03730@sserve.cc.adfa.oz.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 3:34 PM 14/11/94 -0600, Jack Taylor wrote:

> We all waited with great expectations as our V5.15 FBB approached the
> 100,000 message number mark. Many of us have difficulty remembering/
> inputing 5 digit message numbers when requesting a "read". We had hoped

You have two options. Get your users to use the ON command or renumber
your messagebase.

Either would work. Renumbering may stuff up your lastread pointers (I
haven't gone backwards except when I rebuilt from scratch) but it's only 1
login for each user to correct that.

Carl.

--
Carl Makin (VK1KCM) "Speaking for myself only!"
makin@hhcs.gov.au 'Work +61 6 289 8443' Canberra, Australia
'The best book on programming for the layman is "Alice in Wonderland";
but that's because it's the best book on anything for the layman.'

8. [BBSSIG:167] Msg number r

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Mon, 14 Nov 1994 23:50:44 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411141705409@aznetig.stat.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> Date: Mon, 14 Nov 94 15:33 CST
-> From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
-> To: bbssig@tapr.org
-> Subject: [BBSSIG:167] Msg number rollover
->
-> We all waited with great expectations as our V5.15 FBB approached the
-> 100,000 message number mark. Many of us have difficulty remembering/
-> inputing 5 digit message numbers when requesting a "read". We had ho
-> it would reset to zero. No such luck, sigh...it is now over 104,000
-> on the current message numbers, thus increasing the time and difficul
-> for users to read messages.
->
-> I don't know if this is a parameter that is sysop controllable, but i
-> sure would be nice if maxed out at no more than 9,999.
->
-> 73 de Jack

Jack,

There is a Renumber program that you can run...I can UUENCODE it
and send it to you if you need it...

73 de Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563 Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Stat.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

9. Re: [BBSSIG:167] Msg number rollover

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 16 Nov 1994 10:32:12 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941116102610.15503A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 14 Nov 1994, Jack Taylor wrote:

> We all waited with great expectations as our V5.15 FBB approached the
> 100,000 message number mark. Many of us have difficulty remembering/
> inputting 5 digit message numbers when requesting a "read". We had hoped
> it would reset to zero. No such luck, sigh...it is now over 104,000
> on the current message numbers, thus increasing the time and difficulty
> for users to read messages.
>
> I don't know if this is a parameter that is sysop controllable, but it
> sure would be nice if maxed out at no more than 9,999.
>
> 73 de Jack
>

Jack I have a small program called renumber.exe for the F6FBB software and I use it about 3 times a year when my numbers get to about 75,000. With renumber.exe you return to about 100 and all the counters and user things are re-set.

I will get it from my computer at home via my telephone bbs called Maximus and put it on the ftp.ucsd.edu computer in the /hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming directory as renumber.zip and renumber.txt which will just tell Brian to put it with the f6fbb stuff in /packet.

73, buddy de karl, k5di

10. Re: [BBSSIG:168] FBB hangs

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 16 Nov 1994 10:34:10 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941116103302.15503B@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 14 Nov 1994, Jack Taylor wrote:

> Our V5.15 FBB board experiences intermittent "hanging" after a user enters
> a message and gives either a control z or a /ex command. Typically the
> system accepts the message, then disconnects the user. The board then
> hangs for 10-15 minutes before allowing the user to reconnect. Connect
> attempts during this period are met with a "All ports are busy...."
> response.
>
> Has anyone else noticed this problem and/or can recommend a fix for it?
>
> 73 de Jack
>

Bet it's due to the big message number Jack. Help is on it's way!

73, karl

11. New BPQ Version

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Wed, 16 Nov 94 18:47:43 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411170047.AA175087@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

If you've downloaded the upgrade to BPQ, tell us what significant changes have been made. Is it worth upgrading right away? Please share your observations with the rest of the folks on the sig.

73 de Dave W05H

12. RE: [BBSSIG:175] New BPQ Version

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 16 Nov 1994 22:41:02 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941116224102.316b@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Recent changes to G8BPQ switching system

Version 4.05

Internal TNC2 application support removed (except in Data Engine). A new

driver, BPQHTNC2.COM replaces it.

Parameter added to DEDHOST to suppress PacketCluster 'Autotimer' messages.

Stations heard list included (MHEARD command).

REJ handling changed to try to stop multiple repeat transmissions.

Parameter added to disable the *** LINKED function. This is required for some gateway systems, but can be abused. I suggest it is disabled unless required by a gateway application.

Facility added to route transmitted frames to a different port. This is for a 'Single transmitter, Multiple receivers' environment. If parameter TXPORT=n is added to a port, all frames for that port will be sent on port n.

Support added for hardware interrupts 8-15.

Support added for Baycom USCC-Karte. Ports A and B are the 1200 baud ports. Port C is the TTL port, and port D the G3RUH compatible 9600 baud port.

The documentation on the various external application drivers has been merged into file DRIVERS.DOC.

SOFTDCD should now work on HDLC cards.

Version 4.05e July 92

DEDHOST driver now prevents multiple incoming connects (For PacketCluster)

DCD Interrupt handling speeded up to improve SOFTDCD.

New Non-TSR version for operation as Network node only (See SWITCH.DOC).

Feature added to allow CTEXT to be sent to all users.

Various Bux fixes to BPQHTNC2.

Version 4.06 September 92

I am working (unfortunately rather slowly) on rationalising all the .DOC files into a coherent SYSOP's Manual. In this release, the descriptions of all the programs (except interface drivers) have been combined into PROGS.DOC, and files BPQCODE.DOC and CONFIG.DOC merged. Other files have been brought up to date.

Several bugs fixed in BPQHTNC2. New Function (AH=1F/AL=3) added to set PACLEN to recommended value from node.

All numeric aliases were treated as port numbers.

Reflected routes now get OBSCOUNT set, so they don't vanish too soon.

ON-OFF keying for CWID (mainly for use with G3RUH type modems, and radios with a fast keying characteristic (eg Kantronics DataRadios)).

Code added to stop sessions sticking in Disconnecting state.

'*** LINKED to' processing fixed on Data Engine version.

Clocking setup on port C of BAYCOM USCC card (the TTL port) changed to be compatible with the BAYCOM modem.

The driver code for linking to a NET/ROM diode matrix has been fixed. I had misunderstood the system, and used the wrong polarity of signals. So inverters were required to connect the PC to the matrix. Now a simple 5 wire cable with one pull-up resistor can be used to link a diode matrix port intended for a TNC2 to the PC. Remember that to operate with a matrix, you must set FULLDUP=0 in BPQCFG.TXT. This time I have tested it pretty thoroughly!

PC	2	-----	3	MATRIX Port
	3	-----	2	(Wired for TNC2)
	4	-----	5	
--	5	-----	20	

```

|
R 7 ----- 7
|
-- 20          R = 10K resistor

```

One side-affect is that it is no longer possible to use the NETROM port with a Half-Duplex landline modem. If anyone is actually using such as system, please let me know, and I'll restore the facility.

Version 4.06a October 1992

Fix a bug introduced in 4.06 that disables the lost interrupt detection code. This could result in an ASYNC port hanging, and the switch running out of buffers. Only BPQCODE.EXE and SWITCH.EXE are changed from the 4.06 version.

Also the sample BPQCFG.TXT included a KISS port with IOADDR=3F8h, IRQ=3 which is invalid. This has been fixed.

Version 4.06b

Experimental version - not released.

Version 4.06c December 92

Includes code to support my IP Router program IPGATE.EXE. Currently IPGATE runs as a foreground program, so will normally require the use of DesqView. See file IPGATE.DOC for further information.

Version 4.06d

This was an experiment in use of Selective Reject (SREJ) processing. This is designed to improve throughput, particularly when running with a large MAXFRAME, by retransmitting only missing frames, rather than everything following a dropped frame. However it is not working correctly yet, so has been disabled.

Version 4.06e March 93

This fixes a problem where a lost tx interrupt on an HDLC card could cause the port to lock up, and the switch eventually run out of buffers.

Version 4.06f April 93

Fixes a bug in 4.06e which prevented access to the node via a digipeater.

Adds a driver to allow two or more BPQ nodes to be linked via Ethernet (see section on ODIDRV in DRIVERS.DOC)

Version 4.06g May 93

Changed processing of RR(F) and REJ(F) received in response to an I(P) frame. Any missing frames are now retransmitted immediately, instead of waiting until after the next RR(P) command.

Added extra options to the STATS display, mainly for uses with more than 7 radio ports. S S displays just the system and L3/L4 counters. S n displays L2 counts for up to 7 ports, starting with port n.

Version 4.06k September 93

Versions h-j were either controlled or beta release only.

A bit more tinkering with REJ processing.

Improvements to IPGATE (see IPGATE.DOC), and integration of IPGATE into SWITCH.EXE.

Fixed bug which could cause a corrupt 'NODES' broadcast to crash the switch.

Fixed PACLEN processing on ports using BPQHTNC2. Paclen should now be set

to the value recommended by the switch, which in the case of level 2 connects will be the PORT PACLEN.

Fixed problem which prevented BPQNODES and BPQDUMP finding the switch if there were no comms ports using interrupts 2-7.

Driver for PA0HZP's OptoSCC card is now documented. This driver has actually been present for several versions, but I could never get it to work. It now appears that my card is faulty, as others have used the driver successfully.

Version 4.07 December 93

Fixed problem with REJ handling, which could cause lots of repeats of a frame, particularly on a very busy link.

Added new parameter, MINQUAL, to PORTS configuration. This defines the lowest quality node that will be included in a Nodes broadcast on the port.

Added new parameter LEARN Y/N to IPGATE.CFG. This allows the automatic route learning mechanism to be disabled.

Version 4.07a January 1994

Added timestamps to monitor display in PAC4 and SWITCH.

Added REBOOT command to SYSOPH - causes PC to reboot.

See file QEMMPROB for a description of a problem which can arise when using QEMM7. Many thanks to Mike, N1BEE for bringing this to my attention.

Version 4.08beta June 1994

Fixes problem with JNOS BPQHOST interface.

Fixes problem that could cause links to hang up when using IPGATE.

Includes Windows DLL and VxD to allow use of BPQ Host mode from Windows applications. See WINBPQ.DOC for details.

Version 4.08 October 1994

Provides a means of creating aliases for connect commands. (ie a Node could have a command BBS, which is converted internally to C GB7XXX)

Includes additional BPQHOST API functions to simplify managing stream numbers.

John Wiseman, G8BPQ
1/10/94

ps
UK 'phone numbers are changing. My number is now 0115 9522669. Please only phone between 20:00 and 22:00 GMT

13. RE: [BBSSIG:175] New BPQ Version

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 16 Nov 1994 22:44:33 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941116224433.316b@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I've downloaded bpq408.zip from ftp.funet.fi and installed it. All seems to be working quite smoothly, although I haven't used all of the new features because they aren't necessary for my present setup. It is also available from kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov in the pub/hamradio/G8BPQ dir as well.

73, Ed, K1BYV

14. [BBSSIG:175] New BPQ Vers

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 03:49:06 GMT

> P.S.- If anyone is interested, I just DL'd from the UK a nifty program
> called WATCHBPQ, you run it under a DesqView window and it has some
> neat live monitoring functions...

Where did you get that program from? I'm allways interesting in trying new
programs out that may be useful.

Thanks!

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****  
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *  
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *  
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *  
*****
```

17. Re: [BBSSIG:179] Re: New BPQ Version

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 09:03:32 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9411170822.A27690-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 17 Nov 1994, William L. Barnes wrote:

>
> On Wed, 16 Nov 1994, Dave Wolf wrote:
>
> > If you've downloaded the upgrade to BPQ, tell us what significant
> > changes have been made. Is it worth upgrading right away? Please share
> > your observations with the rest of the folks on the sig.
>
> Nothing different except a few bug fixes from 4.08 and it now includes
> windows stuff. (a Dynamicly Linked Library).

I assume you mean "from 4.07".

I concur. I really don't see much difference here, with one exception.
I'm linking two computers together using BPQ. I forward over a 50'
RS-232 line between them. In the past, I have noticed there were usually
some extra retries that shouldn't be on the line. With this upgrade, I'm
seeing none, or at least so few that I don't notice them. Throughput is
better, and there aren't little stalls in flow like there used to be.
Whether this is coincidence or not, I'm not able to say.

For me, it is working better (with no other changes).

Gary

18. Re: [BBSSIG:178] New BPQ Vers

From: "Jay Townsend" <jayt@comtch.iea.com>
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 1994 08:40:24 -0800 (PST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0r89sn-0001amC@comtch.iea.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> P.S.- If anyone is interested, I just DL'd from the UK a nifty program
> called WATCHBPQ, you run it under a DesqView window and it has some
> neat live monitoring functions...
>
Sure Dan where did you FTP the program from?

--

Jay Townsend, Ws7i <jayt@comtch.iea.com >

19. Re: [BBSSIG:181] Re: New BPQ Version

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@saturn.bloomu.edu>
Date: Fri, 18 Nov 1994 12:05:07 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941118120355.22842A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 17 Nov 1994, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

> > Nothing different except a few bug fixes from 4.08 and it now includes
> I assume you mean "from 4.07".

Yep, sorry, mind slip.

> I concur. I really don't see much difference here, with one exception.
> I'm linking two computers together using BPQ. I forward over a 50'
> RS-232 line between them. In the past, I have noticed there were usually

I haven't used that, but I'm glad to see that it works better now. I'm still checking my station to see if there isn't anything new... I still haven't noticed anything...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

20. WATCHBPQ.ZIP

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 04:27:03 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <94111822050525@aznetig.stat.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

The program I mentioned for BPQ408 is called WATCHBPQ.ZIP.

I pulled it down from a UK LL BBS..

If you would like to obtain it, Send E-Mail To:

Getfile@Aznetig.Stat.Com
WATCHBPQ.ZIP <<<<----- This is Your Subject

That's all there is to it...

73 de Dan

```
----- \-----/ -----
        Arizona Network Intertie Group
        "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"
```

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Stat.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

21. BPQ 3.08

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 20 Nov 94 9:11:36 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411201511.AA122097@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I downloaded it. I unzipped it. I loaded it on the computers.
The results:

My observations-- is it my imagination, or is this version running faster than previous BPQ versions? No changes to the computers here or configuration. BPQ seems to be handling everything faster than it had in the past. Other input on your experience would be appreciated.

73 de Dave

22. HIERARCHICAL WRAP-UP

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 20 Nov 94 9:25:07 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: netsig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411201525.AA122148@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

If you 've been following the SIGs for a while, you may remember that a proposal for 'standardization' of hierarchical addressing is now open for comment and input. A copy of this proposal is in the current Packet Status Register (TAPR's quarterly journal). An electronic version is avail in the archives or if you request a copy, I'll be happy to e-mail one to you (dwolf@tcet.unt.edu). A printed copy may be obtained from the TAPR office, too.

As the Dec 31 deadline approaches, the authors of the proposal would like to include as many regional address elements as possible. If you have a complete list of regional hierarchical address elements (the parts with the '#' front of them if you're in North America; provinces, prefectures, departments, etc., and #regions, if you are elsewhere), please e-mail them bbssig@tapr.org. I'll download them to the file I've been building, plus everyone on the SIG will benefit from having this reference info.

Many thanks to all who have commented and contributed to this effort.

Dave Wolf W05H
TAPR BBS SIG Chair

23. [BBSSIG:185] BPQ 3.08

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Sun, 20 Nov 1994 17:31:02 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <94112011050729@aznetig.stat.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
-> To: bbssig@tapr.org
-> Date: Sun, 20 Nov 94 09:21 CST
-> Subject: [BBSSIG:185] BPQ 3.08
->
-> I downloaded it. I unzipped it. I loaded it on the computers.
-> The results:
->
-> My observations-- is it my imagination, or is this version running
-> faster than previous BPQ versions? No changes to the computers here
-> configuration. BPQ seems to be handling everything faster than it ha
-> in the past. Other input on your experience would be appreciated.
->
-> 73 de Dave

Dave,

I have noticed the same thing, not on my links, but on my EtherNet connection using the ODI Driver...It is much quicker...

Another observation, the previous version I could not load high with QEMM. This version I can load high with QEMM. He has managed to shrink some of the overhead as well and not degrade the product.

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Stat.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

24. RE: [BBSSIG:185] BPQ 3.08

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Sun, 20 Nov 1994 14:37:07 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941120143707.212b@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I also noticed a much smoother operation from the get-go. I think we've got a real winner!

73, Ed

25. Flexnet

From: "Andrew Kukla" <ve3mrm@ve3mrm.ampr.org>
Date: Sun, 20 Nov 94 19:03:46 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org,
greg
Message-ID: <287.ve3mrm@ve3mrm.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am looking for the information about Flexnet system, popular in Europe.
Does anybody know where I could get it from?

```
=====
AMPRnet      : ve3mrm%ve3mrm.ampr.org@bbs.ve3rpi.ampr.org
IP address   : ve3mrm.ampr.org [44.135.88.38]          Andrew Kukla
AX.25        : VE3MRM@VA3BBS.#SCON.ON.CAN.NOAM         o      Toronto, Ontario
Internet     : andrewk@io.org [142.77.27.2]             (□)      73
===== □ =====
```

26. Re: [BBSSIG:189] Flexnet

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 21 Nov 1994 01:55:41 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199411210755.BAA05152@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

An article was published by Gunter (the creator) at the Digital Conf held in
Tampa. 1993 13th Annual.

Greg

According to Andrew Kukla:

```
>
> I am looking for the information about Flexnet system, popular in Europe.
> Does anybody know where I could get it from?
>
> =====
> AMPRnet      : ve3mrm%ve3mrm.ampr.org@bbs.ve3rpi.ampr.org
> IP address   : ve3mrm.ampr.org [44.135.88.38]          Andrew Kukla
> AX.25        : VE3MRM@VA3BBS.#SCON.ON.CAN.NOAM         o      Toronto, Ontario
> Internet     : andrewk@io.org [142.77.27.2]             (□)      73
> ===== □ =====
>
```

27. Layout In Az

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Mon, 21 Nov 1994 03:10:41 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <94112021050533@aznetig.stat.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Dave,

The HIER. Layout in Az is:

*.AZ.USA.NA

We do not implement .# do to our network system allowing live connects
from one end of the state to another. We agreed this year to not to
make any changes because things are still working so well.

Dan

```
-----          \-----/          -----
                  Arizona Network Intertie Group
                  "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"
```

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@AzNetIG.Stat.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

28. Forwarding Partners?

From: MAK5656@delphi.com
Date: Mon, 21 Nov 1994 23:33:13 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <01HJRC5PXDxE986802@delphi.com>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Howdy...my name is Mike and my call is KF5PX. I run an MSYS packet bbs station in Corpus Christi, TX. I am looking to open an HF port on 20 meters with an emphasis on the Northeastern States and Europe. Mode will be Pactor...

I need some stations that are interested in a partner located in South Texas that would be receptive to me forwarding personal traffic through their station...NOT bulletins, but personal traffic and NTS traffic.

With my proximity to Mexico, I could serve as a decent gateway from the North to South American bound traffic...If you are interested, I can be reached at:

AX-25: KF5PX @ KF5PX.#STX.TX.USA.NOAM

E-Mail: MAK5656 @ Delphi.Com

Fax: 1-512-993-7531

Thanks..I will be on one frequency initially, so if you are interested, tell me where you will be. MSYS supports compression compatability with both FBB as well as RLI softwares.

73/Mike

29. # designations

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>

Date: Tue, 22 Nov 1994 00:07:35 -0700 (MST)

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9411220019.A7517-0100000@hannibal>

Rendered body type: text/plain

I think you already have this, but just to be sure...

The Panhandle of Nebraska (and no other part) is served by
.#WNE.NE.USA.NoAm

Gary,
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NA
(mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us)

30. RE: [BBSSIG:186] HIERARCHICAL WRAP-UP

From: Jim Fortney <fortney@lcsipdp.litton.com>

Date: Tue, 22 Nov 94 01:17:06 PST

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.00.941122012435.fortney@fortneyh.litton.com>

Rendered body type: text/plain

To repeat MY position, Regional and Area H-address Designators should be guided by some Standards concerning structure BUT it is inappropriate to try and maintain a list of "valid" designators. The "#" Designators should be established and abolished at the local level. They will be much more dynamic than the other H-address Designators (i.e., Continent, Country, State/Province) and TAPR maintaining a current list would be almost impossible.

Jim Fortney, K6IYK

>If you 've been following the SIGs for a while, you may remember that
>a proposal for 'standardization' of hierarchical addressing is now open

>for comment and input. A copy of this proposal is in the current Packet
>Status Register (TAPR's quarterly journal). An electronic version is
>avail in the archives or if you request a copy, I'll be happy to e-mail
>one to you (dwolf@tcet.unt.edu). A printed copy may be obtained from
>the TAPR office, too.
>
>As the Dec 31 deadline approaches, the authors of the proposal would
>like to include as many regional address elements as possible. If you
>have a complete list of regional hierarchical address elements (the
>parts with the '#' front of them if you're in North America; provinces,
>prefectures, departments, etc., and #regions, if you are elsewhere),
>please e-mail them bbssig@tapr.org. I'll download them to the file I've
>been building, plus everyone on the SIG will benefit from having this
>reference info.
>
>Many thanks to all who have commented and contributed to this effort.
>
>Dave Wolf W05H
>TAPR BBS SIG Chair
>

31. Re: [BBSSIG:186] HIERARCHICAL WRAP-UP

From: Bill Healy <healy@ee.unr.edu>
Date: Tue, 22 Nov 94 2:28:14 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411221024.AA02616@solstice>
Rendered body type: text/plain

For Nevada we have the following:
#NONEV covers Reno, Carson city, Fallon, NV portion of Lake Tahoe
#NENEV covers Elko and Ely
#SONEV covers Las Vegas area

Bill
healy@moriah.ee.unr.edu
n8khn@n8khn.#nonev.nv.usa.noam
n8khn@hamgate.n8khn.ampr.org
Northern Nevada BBS coordinator

32. [NETSIG:334] Re: HIERARCHICAL WRAP-UP (fwd)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 22 Nov 1994 17:24:51 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)
Message-ID: <19941122324.RAA20639@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Klarsen:
>From netsig@tapr.org Tue Nov 22 09:37:19 1994
Date: Tue, 22 Nov 94 09:30 CST
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941122081309.13446B-100000@kazak>
Reply-To: netsig@tapr.org
Originator: netsig@tapr.org
Sender: netsig@tapr.org
Precedence: bulk
From: Klarsen <klarsen@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
To: netsig@tapr.org
Subject: [NETSIG:334] Re: HIERARCHICAL WRAP-UP
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Networking SIG
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
In-Reply-To: <9411201525.AA122148@tcet.unt.edu>

Hi Dave, not sure I summarized my input from the Great State of New Mexico. But it is simple. We have so few bbs in this state it's not useful to have area designators. So you should see none. But it is possible for a bbs to decide for some reason to use a #NENM or like that it will not effect the mail in any way.

73, karl, k5di@k5di.nm.usa.noam

33. (no subject)

From: fwar1@cc.bellcore.com
Date: Tue, 22 Nov 1994 18:29:15 -0500
Message-ID: <19941122329.AA20402@bulkrate.cc.bellcore.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'm out of the office until 29 November.

Have a GREAT Thanksgiving.

Immediate problems to Bruce Schaeffer on (201) 740-4221.

You will only see this once and I'll see your mail on my return.

Frank Warren

34. [NETSIG:347] Some hiers for Florida (fwd)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Fri, 25 Nov 1994 15:30:29 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199411252130.PAA21215@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Howard Goldstein:
>From netsig@tapr.org Fri Nov 25 12:22:40 1994
Date: Fri, 25 Nov 94 12:18 CST
Message-Id: <199411251813.NAA22332@bb.iu.net>
Reply-To: netsig@tapr.org
Originator: netsig@tapr.org
Sender: netsig@tapr.org
Precedence: bulk
From: imotion@iu.net (Howard Goldstein)
To: netsig@tapr.org
Subject: [NETSIG:347] Some hiers for Florida
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Networking SIG
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.3

Someone was asking about hiers in Florida. I don't have the whole list, and there is no widely used standard .#xxx arrangement here.

A few I'm familiar with:

#stu and #stufl	(stuart fl)
#vrb and #vrbfl	(vero beach)
#mlb and #mlbfl	(melbourne)
#avo	(avon park)
#dab and #dabfl	(daytona bch)
#citfl	(citrus county <gulf coast N of St pete>)

#xxx and #xxxFL appear to be used interchangeably w/o regard to any standard.

35. AA4RE path.bb queries

From: "Kenneth F. Jones" <0003672208@mcimail.com>
Date: Mon, 28 Nov 94 20:23 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <92941129012329/0003672208NA4EM@MCIMAIL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Be there a Guru on net what knows how the path.bb needs to be set up in version 2.1r (2.13 beta) of AA4RE BBS? I need Elmer to tell me the details of FORCE on the PATH line, and how the various T lines beneath interact, particularly when they also have the FORCE entry on them. For example, if there isn't FORCE on the PATH line, does a T line with FORCE really matter? Does the X command cause these PATH statements to be interpreted any differently than if a cycle starts by clock time? Is it just a way to make REBBS think the forwarding time has arrived?

I am delving into details of this BBS, as our club has a desire to effect receipt of @ARL and other interesting stuff, plus delivery to the TNC (personal maildrop) of members' SP messages. I need to investigate the abilities of REBBS to deliver messages in this way. Is this concept known as REVERSE FORWARDING (T line showing REVERSE)? Seems to me DELIVER would be a good word, but hey... Any pointers gratefully appreciated -- I'll take all the help I can get.
Personal responses to 3672208@MCIMail.com
Thanks already!
Ken Jones KB3JA

36. RE: [BBSSIG:199] AA4RE path.bb queries

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Tue, 29 Nov 1994 6:48:23 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941129064823.34b7@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Ken:

I've been using REBBS for several years now and really enjoy the smoothness of its operation. I have not had any luck with putting FORCE on an individual T line, but it does work very well in the first line of each path script! I will send you a copy of my path file (don't let the callsigns throw you - I run a MARS bbs) for your study purposes direct to your e-mail address. The order of events IS VERY IMPORTANT! Otherwise what you would like to happen probably won't, or at least not the way you would like - hi! Then you would need to go back and do some rearranging of lines in each script. If you wish, you can send me a copy of your path.bb file once you've constructed it and I'll check it over. Also, don't forget that the path and route files interact when it comes to forwarding.

73, Ed, K1BYV

37. Re: [BBSSIG:199] AA4RE path.bb queries

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Tue, 29 Nov 1994 09:16:43 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199411291716.JAA12787@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
>Be there a Guru on net what knows how the path.bb needs
>to be set up in version 2.1r (2.13 beta) of AA4RE BBS?
>I need Elmer to tell me the details of FORCE on the PATH
>line, and how the various T lines beneath interact,
>particularly when they also have the FORCE entry on them.
>For example, if there isn't FORCE on the PATH line, does a
>T line with FORCE really matter?

I believe that when FORCE appears on the PATH line, that path will always force, that is, a connect will occur whether or not you have traffic pending for that path. This allows you to REVERSE forward even if you have no outbound traffic for that station.

If FORCE appears on a T line, it is a test. It means that that T line can only be used if FORCE has been asserted in the X command, if FORCE was not asserted, the T line is skipped.

>Does the X command cause these PATH statements to be
>interpreted any differently than if a cycle starts by
>clock time? Is it just a way to make REBBS think the
>forwarding time has arrived?

By CLOCK TIME, I think you mean the parameter in PARMS.BB called forwarding time. I think that that causes an X command (with no parameters added) to occur hourly at the specified minute. I control my forwarding by placing X commands in the wakeup file, it's alot more flexible especially when you forward to many stations. You can add parameters to specify which path or which group of paths should be enabled, etc. There is another parms.bb parameter that will disable the simple hourly+offset forwarding so that wakeup scheduling isn't interfered with.

>
>I am delving into details of this BBS, as our club
>has a desire to effect receipt of @ARL and other
>interesting stuff, plus delivery to the TNC
>(personal maildrop) of members' SP messages. I
>need to investigate the abilities of REBBS to deliver
>messages in this way. Is this concept known as
>REVERSE FORWARDING (T line showing REVERSE)? Seems
>to me DELIVER would be a good word, but hey...

You're asking all the same questions I had when I was learning Roys software! As I understand it, FORWARDING is when you initiate a connect and send traffic to the other station, REVERSE forwarding is when you initiate a connect and solicit traffic from the other station. Roy allows you to omit reversing, when desired, by using NORPROMPT in the T line. When forwarding

to a personal BBS, be sure to identify it as a personal BBS in the user file.

>Any pointers gratefully appreciated -- I'll take all the
>help I can get.
>Personal responses to 3672208@MCIMail.com
>Thanks already!
>Ken Jones KB3JA
>
>
PS, when using forwarding groups, the only X command I know of that will
FORCE to the entire group is "Xn * FORCE", where "n" is the group number
and " * " specifies all paths.

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

38. RE: [BBSSIG:201] Re: AA4RE path.bb queries

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Tue, 29 Nov 1994 12:48:08 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941129124808.5568@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Re: X command... The X command is a direct keyboard command to force a
forward cycle at that moment. X by itself will force ALL of the
forwarding paths to cycle. X <cyclename> will only force only that cycle.
Roy also includes a number of options which may be attached to the X
command to tailor it very specifically.

The use of each parameter/command in the path.bb file is explained in
detail in fwd.doc together with given examples. I suggest that you study
this doc in detail, and then create your path.bb file and try it.
Remember that the order is VERY important for the T lines as well as the
placement of the commands/options in each T line. See the example(s) that
I sent you in another mailing.

I will be more than happy to help you in any way as you struggle with the
usual learning curve associated with new software. Like Mike said, you
are asking the same questions the rest of us did when first setting up
REBBS. Good luck.

73, Ed Sadowski, K1BYV

39. FBB Stats.

From: briane@goofy.iaccess.za (Brian Ellse)
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 09:35:22 +0200
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: f6fbb-list@stat.com
Message-ID: <wi2tk4XjZtp07lyn@goofy.iaccess.za>
Rendered body type: text/plain

HI all,

I am in search of information regarding the connection stats shown by the
server available to users on F6FBB v 5.15c

If a user goes into the server (Key F) and then to the connection stats
(Key C), and the enters key G, he gets a packet showing number of
connections since date xxxxx, and average duration of each connections, as
well as peak traffic times.

The problem as I see it is that the date xxxxx is always the Date of the first
time switch on of the BBS. I would like to reset this each month, so that
the user can check the data for the current month. Is there a file that I can
safely delete and replace with a fresh (0 balance) file, or a file that I
can perhaps edit to get the same result.

I have tried deleting the FBBLOG.nn files in the /fbb/system/log directory,
but this doesnt seem to do the trick. It would appear that FBB stores the
connection history in another area.

Any assistance on this puzzler will be greatly appreciated.

73's de Brian
ZR5DTS @ZR5DTS.KZN.ZAF.AF (AX25)
briane@goofy.iaccess.za (Internet)

40. Re: [BBSSIG:203] FBB Stats.

From: Dean R Madsen <dmdasen@iastate.edu>
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 02:44:12 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9411300844.AA01656@pv6f26.vincent.iastate.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>time switch on of the BBS. I would like to reset this each month, so that
>the user can check the data for the current month. Is there a file that I can
>safely delete and replace with a fresh (0 balance) file, or a file that I
>can perhaps edit to get the same result.
>
>I have tried deleting the FBBLOG.nn files in the /fbb/system/log directory,
>but this doesn't seem to do the trick. It would appear that FBB stores the
>connection history in another area.
>

The STATIS.DAT file in the \FBB\SYSTEM directory keeps track of the
connects/history.

As the user information is kept in the INF.SYS file and the message info
in the DIRMES.SYS file, the only consequence of deleting the STATIS.DAT
file should be you reset the BBS to 0 connects and start fresh as you
want.

After you delete the file and restart FBB you should get a window that
says FBB couldn't find the STATIS.DAT file and will ask if you want to
create it at which type you will want to answer yes.

Probably a safer way of going about this is to _rename_ the STATIS.DAT
file something else try starting FBB and creating a new STATIS.DAT. If
it doesn't produce the desired results, then immediately exit from FBB
and put the original file back.

73,
Dean - KE0WO
dmdasen@iastate.edu

```
+++++
+ Dean R Madsen, KE0WO                      Computer Engineering Major      +
+ Internet: dmdasen@iastate.edu              Iowa State University        +
+      ke0wo@iastate.edu                    Ames, Iowa                  +
+ AX25: KE0WO @ KE0WO.#NWIA.IA.USA.NA      +
+      Secretary for the Tristate Amateur Packet Association              +
+      Treasurer for the Cyclone Amateur Radio Club                      +
+++++
```

41. A sysop problem

From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 08:35:11 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941130082914.651A@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I received this message from Gary this morning and was rather
taken aback by the quality of the message and it's content. Here
is a copy of his message with not a thing changed:

Use what you will. If it's not addressed to suit the
local [AS[Bsatgate here it is in the bit bucket. Comply with
their requirements or lose your mail. It does not
matter to me[A[A[A[D[D[D[D[Da[D[D[B[B[B[C[C[C[C[C[C[C. It will be that much less CRAP for me
to service through my forwarding gateway. I could care
less. [[A[BFollow, lead, or get the hell out of the way.
73 de GARY, WA7NTF @ WA7NTF.#WWA.WA.USA.NOAM

00000

```
+-----+
| This message was forwarded by the AMSAT Satellite Gateway System |
| Support & Membership: AMSAT-NA 850 Sligo Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910 |
| User information: WB5EKW @ WB5EKW.#WTX.TX.USA.NA (915) 676-8929 |
| Downloaded from Uo-22 (UoSat-5) Satellite on 11-29-1994 at 21:40 CST |
+-----+
```

00000

What he is telling me is that he will DESTROY ALL MAIL FROM MY BBS! This is the true Ham spirit. Follow, lead or get out of the way he tells me. It is clear that he feels qualified to lead. I don't share his optimism since it is at least clear that he isn't interested in getting the packet bbs mail delivered. I am.

Why will Gary wa7ntf destroy my mail? Because I use the address for my bbs of k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na and he DEMANDS that EVERYONE use k5di@k5di.nm.usa.noam or "get the hell out of the way". I will now explain in detail what Gary must do to allow stations using .na to pass through his bbs.

Assuming Gary is using the F6FBB software he must have a forwarding partner that has in his entry for forward.sys the following line:

```
*.noam
```

Now to allow the mail addressed to xxx.na to pass the same exact way he MUST ADD this very hard to add line in his file:

```
*.na
```

My route to the world is via the Internet. But return mail often comes a different route. That route might include wa7ntf. Gary will destroy all mail arriving at his bbs with xxx.na addresses because HE refuses to put that very difficult *.na below *.noam in his forward file.

It's clear that Gary feels he knows best what we should do. I don't share that feeling. But what I would like to see is a positive approach to this problem where solutions are presented rather than threats. I think a Ham that wants to be a Gateway should not try to destroy mail. My bbs sends people a note back when it can't figure out the address. I get a note from the person saying "I got the address off the message". So I look and sure enuf my forward file needs to have something added to it. Since xxx.na has been around for years it is hard to understand why it isn't in Gary's bbs.

```
73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.noam
      k5di@arl.mil
      klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu
      1:305/111 on The Fido net
```

Bill Gates DOS and Windows may be poor software, but the facts speak for themselves. Bill Gates has more than a billion dollars. He got that money from selling DOS and Windows...

42. Sysop problems again

```
From: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 13:46:49 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Cc: Klarsen <klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941130134245.4987C-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

I received this message from Gary this morning and was rather taken aback by the quality of the message and it's content. Here is a copy of his message with not a thing changed:

```
-----
Use what you will. If it's not addressed to suit the
local [AS[Bsatgate here it is in the bit bucket. Comply with
their requirements or lose your mail. It does not
matter to me[A[A[A[D[D[D[D[Da[D[D[B[D[B[C[C[C[C[C[C[C. It will be that much less CRAP for me
to service through my forwarding gateway. I could care
less. [[A[BFollow, lead, or get the hell out of the way.
73 de GARY, WA7NTF @ WA7NTF.#WWA.WA.USA.NOAM
```

```
00000
```

```
+-----+
| This message was forwarded by the AMSAT Satellite Gateway System |
| Support & Membership: AMSAT-NA 850 Sligo Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910 |
```

```
|      User information: WB5EKW @ WB5EKW.#WTX.TX.USA.NA (915) 676-8929      |
|      Downloaded from Uo-22 (UoSat-5) Satellite on 11-29-1994 at 21:40 CST  |
+-----+
```

00000

What he is telling me is that he will DESTROY ALL MAIL FROM MY BBS! This is the true Ham spirit. Follow, lead or get out of the way he tells me. It is clear that he feels qualified to lead. I don't share his optimism since it is at least clear that he isn't interested in getting the packet bbs mail delivered. I am.

Why will Gary wa7ntf destroy my mail? Because I use the address for my bbs of k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na and he DEMANDS that EVERYONE use k5di@k5di.nm.usa.noam or "get the hell out of the way". I will now explain in detail what Gary must do to allow stations using .na to pass through his bbs.

Assuming Gary is using the F6FBB software he must have a forwarding partner that has in his entry for forward.sys the following line:

```
*.noam
```

Now to allow the mail addressed to xxx.na to pass the same exact way he MUST ADD this very hard to add line in his file:

```
*.na
```

My route to the world is via the Internet. But return mail often comes a different route. That route might include wa7ntf. Gary will destroy all mail arriving at his bbs with xxx.na addresses because HE refuses to put that very difficult *.na below *.noam in his forward file.

It's clear that Gary feels he knows best what we should do. I don't share that feeling. But what I would like to see is a positive approach to this problem where solutions are presented rather than threats. I think a Ham that wants to be a Gateway should not try to destroy mail. My bbs sends people a note back when it can't figure out the address. I get a note from the person saying "I got the address off the message". So I look and sure enuf my forward file needs to have something added to it. Since xxx.na has been around for years it is hard to understand why it isn't in Gary's bbs.

73, de karl k5di

I hope this does away with the numbers added by something along the way....

43. Re: [BBSSIG:205] A sysop problem

From: Fred Peerenboom <af780@DAYTON.WRIGHT.EDU>
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 19:05:31 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412010005.AA23459@dayton.wright.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

buch of stuff about message deletion by a sysop deleted to save space
< sysop refuses to acknowlege .na in stead of .noam

Sounds as bad as the dude in northern Cal that deleted a message I sent out because the subject line was to bland. And then had the stupidity to clutter up the packet networks with a message to me telling me of his idiotic actions. C'mon sysops, if'n ya wants ta play with the big kids ya gots to play the game the way ever' one else do.

One old saying goes, Too many cooks spoil the broth. How about "too many BOSS SYSOPS spoil the packet networks"

maybe that's why most of the bbs sigs and net sigs that contain useful info are found here on the internet. The bozos that wish to "run" packet radio "their way" hate the inet too. take heart brother, it gonna get worse before it get better. :-Q
Fred af780@dayton.wright.edu ke8tq@n8acv.#day.oh.usa.na.earth

December 1994

Original source file: bbssig.9412

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9412

1. [BBSSIG:206] Sysop proble

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 01:16:12 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <94113018350452@aznetig.stat.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

->
-> What he is telling me is that he will DESTROY ALL MAIL FROM=20
-> MY BBS! This is the true Ham spirit. Follow, lead or get out of=20
-> the way he tells me. It is clear that he feels qualified to lead.=20
-> I don't share his optimism since it is at least clear that he=20
-> isn't interested in getting the packet bbs mail delivered. I am.
->
-> Why will Gary wa7ntf destroy my mail? Because I use the=20
-> address for my bbs of k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na and he DEMANDS that=20
-> EVERYONE use k5di@k5di.nm.usa.noam or "get the hell out of the=20
-> way". I will now explain in detail what Gary must do to allow=20
-> stations using .na to pass through his bbs.
->
-> Assuming Gary is using the F6FBB software he must have a=20
-> forwarding partner that has in his entry for forward.sys the=20
-> following line:
->
-> Gary will destroy all mail arriving at his bbs with xxx.na=20
-> addresses because HE refuses to put that very difficult *.na below=20
-> *.noam in his forward file.
->
-> It's clear that Gary feels he knows best what we should do. I=20
-> don't share that feeling. But what I would like to see is a=20
-> positive approach to this problem where solutions are presented=20
-> rather than threats. I think a Ham that wants to be a Gateway=20
-> should not try to destroy mail. My bbs sends people a note back=20
-> when it can't figure out the address. I get a note from the person=20
-> saying "I got the address off the message". So I look and sure=20
-> enuf my forward file needs to have something added to it. Since=20
-> xxx.na has been around for years it is hard to understand why it=20
-> isn't in Gary's bbs.
->
-> 73, de karl k5di
->
-> =09I hope this does away with the numbers added by something along=20
-> the way....
->
->

Karl,

I too recently received a message from up that way. It was NOT from Gary, but from one of his forwarding partners that demanded I too change my address to .NOAM or he wouldn't forward it. He told me all of his mail was via Internet and that my mail went to Nambia. I hardly believe that as my address shouldn't be floating through the Internet name tables anyway! @N7MRP.AZ.USA.NA is not an internet address...

Oh well...Join the club here Karl...I responded to the chap with the /ACK command to be sure he got the message. I got the ACK message back telling me he got it, but I've yet to get a response to my questions...

Best Wishes from Phoenix!

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@AzNetIG.Stat.Com

2. Re: [BBSSIG:208] Sysop proble

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 94 6:18:36 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412011218.AA107113@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sysops:

It is unreasonable on the part of any sysop to exclude traffic from another station because they won't adopt a particular addressing scheme. Part of process which led to the development of the proposed hierarchical addressing recommendations (still in the process of revision and to be presented to the TAPR BoD on January 1) was intense discussion here on BBSSIG. This discussion included comments from many that mis-routing of amateur packet mail via the internet would not occur (even if the address could be confused somehow as an Internet address) AS LONG AS THE GATEWAY SYSOP SET UP HIS/HER FILES CORRECTLY.

The fellow who insists that another sysop change his hierarchical address is overzealous and unreasonable. He might win a convert to .noam if he used more tactful tactics. I suggest that his attempt, though probably well-intentioned (as most are), is not in a cooperative spirit and simply be ignored. Luckily, most folks exhibit more flexibility as far as hierarchical addressing is concerned. Continue to deal with them and the more rigid will do what metal does- if it refuses to bend, it eventually fatigues at one spot.

Hopefully, this won't grow to a nationwide flametest and hopefully, not become a long thread on BBSSIG.

73 de Dave
Chair, BBSSIG

3. Re: [BBSSIG:209] Re: Sysop proble

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 09:00:38 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.941201085827.4787D-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, Dave Wolf wrote:

> Sysops:
>
> It is unreasonable on the part of any sysop to exclude traffic from
> another station because they won't adopt a particular addressing scheme.

AGREED! I never exclude any traffic for any reason that gets forwarded through my station. Especially personal mail.

> spirit and simply be ignored. Luckily, most folks exhibit more
> flexibility as far as hierarchical addressing is concerned. Continue to
> deal with them and the more rigid will do what metal does- if it refuses to
> bend, it eventually fatigues at one spot.

I use .noam, my hub (our local satgate) still uses .na. Most stations I've noticed still use .na here in PA. So, I just setup my forward file to accept both... Problem solved.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****  
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg University *  
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *  
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *  
*****
```

4. sysop problems

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 08:23:34 -0700 (MST)
To: Daniel Meredith <daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com>
Cc: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941201080921.5395C-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Dan, well I don't expect to hear from Gary but I agree with your position that in NO WAY is our bbs address EVER to be used as an internet address. That is pure stupidity! I know that some hams might make such an error but we can't do things just to preclude the random error.

You and all other active packet bbs sysops are bomb-barded with mail asking that we set up to forward yet ANOTHER special bulletin address and we do it. The list never is very long but it's a real important file for all sysops to have. So I think this sig should include the files for all the bbs software that control what we forward in the way of bulletins, mail and nts traffic. Alas this is so specific a group of files that it would be impossible to do this. And I bring this up to make a point.

A major part of our job as a sysop is changing our forwarding files to accomplish the single goal: Get the mail to the proper place in the proper way; period. A sysop not willing to do this should give the bbs job to another ham. And this goes double for a ham who wants to be a major international gateway!

73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na klarsen@acca.nmsu.edu
DOS and Windows some say are bad software, but facts
do not support this. Bill Gates has more than a
Billion dollars!

5. Re: [BBSSIG:210] Re: Sysop proble

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 08:32:22 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941201082921.5395E-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, William L. Barnes wrote:

>
>
> On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, Dave Wolf wrote:
>
> > Sysops:
> >
> > It is unreasonable on the part of any sysop to exclude traffic from
> > another station because they won't adopt a particular addressing scheme.
>
> AGREED! I never exclude any traffic for any reason that gets forwarded
> I use .noam, my hub (our local satgate) still uses .na. Most stations
> I've noticed still use .na here in PA. So, I just setup my forward file
> to accept both... Problem solved.

Now this is a positive solution to a problem!

-k5di karl

6. Re: [BBSSIG:212] Re: Sysop proble

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 94 10:02:03 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412011002.ZM5641@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 1, 9:42am, Klarsen wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:212] Re: Sysop proble
>
> On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, William L. Barnes wrote:
>
> >
> >
> > On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, Dave Wolf wrote:
> >
> > > Sysops:
> > >
> > > It is unreasonable on the part of any sysop to exclude traffic from
> > > another station because they won't adopt a particular addressing scheme.
> >
> > AGREED! I never exclude any traffic for any reason that gets forwarded
> > I use .noam, my hub (our local satgate) still uses .na. Most stations
> > I've noticed still use .na here in PA. So, I just setup my forward file
> > to accept both... Problem solved.
>

> Now this is a positive solution to a problem!
>
> -k5di karl
>
>-- End of excerpt from Klarsen

In this part of the country (Oregon and SW Washington) we just
route around the offending bbs. We are doing so ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.OR.USA.NOAM

7. Re: [BBSSIG:208] Sysop proble

From: laborde@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 94 11:06:12 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412011906.AA09044@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>...He told me all
>of his mail was via Internet and that my mail went to Nambia.

That is very strange. We forward alot of mail out of LA via Internet and
both .NOAM and .NA seem to have no trouble at all. He must be using out of
date software...

-Greg

--

Gregory R. LaBorde - KD6MSM	Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
Jet Propulsion Laboratory	AMPRNet : kd6msm@jpl-gw.w6vio.ampr.org
Systems Engineering - Galileo OET	Packet : KD6MSM@W6VIO.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
M/S 264-805 4800 Oak Grove Drive	Phone : (818) 393-1107
Pasadena, CA 91109	

8. Re: [BBSSIG:209] Re: Sysop proble

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson)
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 14:18:32 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412011918.AA14601@chaos.NIS.chaos>
Rendered body type: text/plain

My mailer said Dave Wolf said this:

>
> AS LONG AS THE GATEWAY SYSOP SET UP HIS/HER FILES CORRECTLY.

The gateways between packet and Internet have nothing to do with packet
mail going to the Internet or mail bouncing. This was beat on a while back
with the AMSAT mail (I'm the one who figured out how the loop occured and
tracked it down). ANY... ANY TCP/IP system that receives a message
can put it onto the Internet. The only requirement is that they have
some kind of connectivity, whether it be packet, or maybe their own
dial-in. We had those AMSAT messages get reposted back onto the Internet
from here in Detroit and ALL of them went *through* my gateway but not a
single message ever was sent *to* it. The system acts as a router like
many gateways do and anytime a message is sent and accidently ends up
on the Internet or some other network it'll nearly ALWAYS be a regular
packet system at some persons home.

It was proven before that the gateways themselves are not responsible, it's
every NOS system in the world that is responsible and those that are acting
as AX.25 BBS's and TCP/IP SMTP servers are the ones that need to have
his/her files set up correctly. My gateway does not handle any AX.25
mail whatsoever and has no AX.25 ports.

--

Ron Atkinson N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@n8fow.ampr.org
Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
aa011@detroit.freenet.org

9. Re: [BBSSIG:213] Re: Sysop proble

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 12:27:54 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941201122306.9214B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:

```
> On Dec 1, 9:42am, Klarsen wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:212] Re: Sysop proble
> >
> > On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, William L. Barnes wrote:
> >
> > >
> > > On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, Dave Wolf wrote:
> > >
> > > > Sysops:
> > > >
> > > > It is unreasonable on the part of any sysop to exclude traffic from
> > > > another station because they won't adopt a particular addressing scheme.
> > >
> > > AGREED! I never exclude any traffic for any reason that gets forwarded
> > > I use .noam, my hub (our local satgate) still uses .na. Most stations
> > > I've noticed still use .na here in PA. So, I just setup my forward file
> > > to accept both... Problem solved.
> >
> > Now this is a positive solution to a problem!
> >
> > -k5di karl
> >
> >-- End of excerpt from Klarsen
>
> In this part of the country (Oregon and SW Washington) we just
> route around the offending bbs. We are doing so ...
>
> ... Hank
```

That may be the best solution Hank. I do hope that sysop's thinking about or actually destroying mail will re-think the idea and see that getting the mail through is a lot more FUN.

-karl k5di

10. Re: [BBSSIG:210] Re: Sysop proble

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 17:26:52 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412012326.RAA11638@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to William L. Barnes:

```
> I use .noam, my hub (our local satgate) still uses .na. Most stations
> I've noticed still use .na here in PA. So, I just setup my forward file
> to accept both... Problem solved.
```

The next step would be to start educating the other BBSs that you see about the attempt to move to everyone using .noam.

It only takes time and a little discussion.

If folks are worried about the overhead of 2 additional character times N lines...well we probably have other problems to solve...that additional overhead is not really going to hurt. Hopefully when I get school finished this semester I can return to the analysis of headers and possible solutions to changes to decrease overall header size based on current rules.

greg

11. Re: [BBSSIG:210] Re: Sysop proble

From: MAK5656@delphi.com
Date: Thu, 01 Dec 1994 19:12:26 -0500 (EST)

To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <01HK51YC3D8891X55V@delphi.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have read with interest and amazement the folks that bow their necks and refuse to forward because of the use of NA instead of NOAM...or vice versa...
why don't you fellow sysops, setup a file that automatically changes them from NA to NOAM???

Then everyone would be in "compliance" and the traffic would be handled..
Man..quit crying and do your jobs fellas...

Mike/MAK5656@DELPHI.COM
KF5PX@KF5PX.#5TX.TX.USA.NOAM

12. [BBSSIG:214] Re: Sysop pr

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 00:39:02 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <94120117572863@aznetig.stat.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: laborde@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
-> To: bbssig@tapr.org
-> Date: Thu, 1 Dec 94 13:13 CST
-> Subject: [BBSSIG:214] Re: Sysop proble
->
-> >...He told me all
-> >of his mail was via Internet and that my mail went to Nambia.
->
-> That is very strange. We forward alot of mail out of LA via Internet
-> both .NOAM and .NA seem to have no trouble at all. He must be using o
-> date software...
->
-> -Greg

Or you are doing it correctly...Grin! :-)

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@AzNetIG.Stat.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

13. sysop problems

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 00:37:13 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <94120117572864@aznetig.stat.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
-> To: Daniel Meredith <daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com>
-> Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 08:23:34 -0700 (MST)
-> Subject: sysop problems
->
->
-> Hi Dan, well I don't expect to hear from Gary but I agree wit
-> your position that in NO WAY is our bbs address EVER to be used as an
-> internet address. That is pure stupidity! I know that some hams might
-> make such an error but we can't do things just to preclude the random

Here Here! I got a real kick out of the message. The guy kept telling me that traffic destined to my BBS was landing in Nambia...We'll first off why is my traffic being sent through Internet E-mail/SMTP etc??? I can understand the HAM-TO-HAM station, and gateways and such, but not the standard SMTP/internet style stuff....give me a break!!!

->

-> You and all other active packet bbs sysops are bomb-barded wi
-> mail asking that we set up to forward yet ANOTHER special bulletin
-> address and we do it. The list never is very long but it's a real
-> important file for all sysops to have. So I think this sig should inc
-> the files for all the bbs software that control what we forward in th
-> way of bulletins, mail and nts traffic. Alas this is so specific a gr
-> of files that it would be impossible to do this. And I bring this up
-> make a point.

Its a major undertaking, but if I weren't willing to do it, I wouldn't
be running a BBS today...I'm sure you can agree...

->
-> A major part of our job as a sysop is changing our forwarding
-> files to accomplish the single goal: Get the mail to the proper place
-> the proper way; period. A sysop not willing to do this should give th
-> bbs job to another ham. And this goes double for a ham who wants to b
-> major international gateway!

Yep again!

73 de Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563 Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563

List Owner: F6fbb-List@AzNetIG.Stat.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

14. Re: [NETSIG:382] DRSI Dropping Amateur Products

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 94 20:01:36 CST
To: netsig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412020201.AA113343@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

When I requested permission recently from DRSI for TAPR to use photos of
DRSI product in an upcoming book, I received a reply from Andy Demartini
of DRSI. It included these statements:
'Some time ago, DRSI notified all of its dealers that we have
discontinued all amateur radio products....'

DRSI will continue to provide repair service and telephone support for
its amateur products in the field, but we have retired the designs and
no more will be built....'

Dave Wolf W05H

15. RE: DRSI Dropping Amateur Products (fwd)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 23:49:49 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199412020549.XAA29710@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to aed@drsi.com:
>From netsig@tapr.org Thu Dec 1 20:46:35 1994
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 94 20:43 CST
Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.00.4.941201213920.Postmaster@drsi.com>
Reply-To: netsig@tapr.org
Originator: netsig@tapr.org
Sender: netsig@tapr.org
Precedence: bulk
From: aed@drsi.com
To: netsig@tapr.org
Subject: [NETSIG:389] RE: DRSI Dropping Amateur Products
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Networking SIG
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Chameleon - TCP/IP for Windows by NetManage, Inc.

Reply To: Tom Moulton
RAM Mobile Data, Inc.

>From: tmoulton@ram.net

You recently wrote an open letter asking about DRSI -

>I heard a rumor that DRSI (Clearwater, FL) is no longer supporting their
>customers.

This is certainly a rumor, i.e., a false statement based on hearsay. DRSI is providing full telephone, fax and email support for its customers. We are also repairing broken products both in and out of warranty. We are open 9-5 EST, Monday to Friday, and have installed a voice mail system for after-hours support. So, support continues and we are always looking for new ways to communicate with our customers, such as this Internet presence.

>I guess either they are soo busy they don't consider hams important...
>or they are closing their doors...

All customers are important, that's why we work to see that everyone gets their DRSI products working. We also try to understand the nature of the amateur-written shareware programs that support our products. Over the years, support has come down to solving just a handful of common problems that recur, mostly with new users.

Closing our doors ? For the umpteenth time, someone associated with or employed by a DRSI competitor once again asks in public if we are leaving the amateur business (and reducing the competition). No, DRSI is NOT closing up.

For the last four years of DRSI's eight years in business, we have been developing industrial packet radio products and making a name for ourselves in those markets. For the last two years, we have steadily reduced our amateur advertising and hamfest promotions, too. On October 1, I notified our dealers that DRSI was ceasing further manufacture of amateur products. From this point forward, DRSI will focus entirely on its industrial products for the "wireless revolution".

The decision to cease amateur production was made to allow DRSI as a company to focus all of its resources, both human and financial, on the industrial products. The simple truth is that the industrial markets place a significantly higher value on our knowlege and expertise. This added value results in a markedly better ROI. So, we have made a hard choice, but one which will result in better returns for the people who give us their 8, 12 and 16-hour workdays.

>neither is a pretty picture...
>

Tom, let me tell you what isn't "a pretty picture".

It isn't pretty at all to see an "open letter" assault in which you ask questions designed to leave a foregone negative impression in the readers' minds. In the newspaper business, they call it "yellow journalism".

It's particularly suspect when you don't identify yourself as a former part-owner of Paccomm, and now, an employee (and likely a shareholder) in Ram Mobile Data. So, your competitive and financial self-interests in promoting a rumor are quite clear. You didn't take the time to pick up the phone and call us. Instead, you used the time to write the open letter which draws negative conclusions based on a "rumor" from a source you didn't identify. In my opinion, you think the readers of this list are so stupid that they do not see your reasons for starting/promoting this rumor.

Thanks for taking the time to read this reply.

Andy Demartini
aed@drsi.com

16. Re: [BBSSIG:212] Re: Sysop proble

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 08:41:42 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.941202083939.3077B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, Klarsen wrote:

> On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, William L. Barnes wrote:

> > AGREED! I never exclude any traffic for any reason that gets forwarded
> > I use .noam, my hub (our local satgate) still uses .na. Most stations
> > I've noticed still use .na here in PA. So, I just setup my forward file
> > to accept both... Problem solved.
> Now this is a positive solution to a problem!

I even went as far as adding all PBBS callsigns in the state to my forwarding list, this way, everything gets forwarded correctly... I was adding them as I needed them, and got tired, so I did all.

Grep is a wonderful command.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wl barn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

17. Re: [BBSSIG:217] Re: Sysop proble

From: "William L. Barnes" <wl barn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 08:51:25 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.941202084632.3077C-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> According to William L. Barnes:
> > I use .noam, my hub (our local satgate) still uses .na. Most stations
> > I've noticed still use .na here in PA. So, I just setup my forward file
> > to accept both... Problem solved.
>
> The next step would be to start educating the other BBSs that you see about
> the attempt to move to everyone using .noam.

Yes, but I don't wanna push the point. I took .noam, and I'm setup to take .na. It really doesn't bother me either way, but I try to stay compatible with the current ideas of the day.

> It only takes time and a little discussion.

True, but with our 2 meter repeater down, and I have to go look at it Saturday, report due, project due, and finals in two weeks, It'll have to wait...

> If folks are worried about the overhead of 2 additional character times N
> lines...well we probably have other problems to solve...that additional

Well, not to cause any problems, but I had this bulletin the other day trying to be forwarded to my pbbs, and it was almost done, but it would time out before the cntl-z...

It finally got through, but it was only one character and did about 12 tries to get through... Our UHF backbone has been acting funny recently...

> this semester I can return to the analysis of headers and possible solutions
> to changes to decrease overall header size based on current rules.

I personally use the:
Date timeZ mess#n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam [Bloomsburg] Z:17815

I was thinking about putting the bid in there too, but that's too much...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wl barn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

18. Re: [BBSSIG:222] RE: DRSI Dropping Amateur Products (fwd)

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 08:05:04 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.941202080120.20811B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 2 Dec 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

```
> According to aed@drsi.com:
> >From netsig@tapr.org Thu Dec 1 20:46:35 1994
> Date: Thu, 1 Dec 94 20:43 CST
> Message-Id: <Chameleon.4.00.4.941201213920.Postmaster@drsi.com>
> Reply-To: netsig@tapr.org
> Originator: netsig@tapr.org
> Sender: netsig@tapr.org
> Precedence: bulk
> From: aed@drsi.com
> To: netsig@tapr.org
> Subject: [NETSIG:389] RE: DRSI Dropping Amateur Products
```

Thanks Greg for putting out the straight story on DRSI. I'm sorry they are stopping ham sales but sure understand the profit motive. Anyone in business that says he isn't in it for the profit, is a liar!...hi

-karl k5di

19. Re: [BBSSIG:224] Re: Sysop proble

```
From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 11:32:05 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412021732.LAA05145@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

According to William L. Barnes:

```
> On Thu, 1 Dec 1994, Greg Jones wrote:
>
> > According to William L. Barnes:
> > > I use .noam, my hub (our local satgate) still uses .na. Most stations
> > > I've noticed still use .na here in PA. So, I just setup my forward file
> > > to accept both... Problem solved.
> >
> > The next step would be to start educating the other BBSs that you see about
> > the attempt to move to everyone using .noam.
>
> Yes, but I don't wanna push the point. I took .noam, and I'm setup to take
> na. It really doesn't bother me either way, but I try to stay
> compatible with the current ideas of the day.
>
> > It only takes time and a little discussion.
>
> True, but with our 2 meter repeater down, and I have to go look at it
> saturday, report due, project due, and finals in two weeks, It'll have to
> wait...
```

Hey! Another kindred spirit! Finals are always such fun!

```
> > If folks are worried about the overhead of 2 additional character times N
> > lines...well we probably have other problems to solve....that additional
>
> Well, not to cause any problems, but I had this bulletin the other day
> trying to be forwarded to my pbbs, and it was almost done, but it would
> time out before the cntl-z...
```

But how many messages does your system handle a day ? Since the system does not keep any stats on this, it would be impossible to say how often this really happens. Even if the message had no headers, you are going to have messages like this.

```
> I personally use the:
> Date timeZ mess#@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam [Bloomsburg] Z:17815
>
> I was thinking about putting the bid in there too, but that's too much...
>
```

Well - I think I posted what I had in mind before, but here it is again....just a refresher :-)

Lots of Headers were nice when we had less than 200 BBSs in the US and were interested to see how things were moving and just how much time, etc was being used. Now with 1400+ BBSs and the number of messages being passed each day -- a serious look at how headers are used and generated is needed.

If we look at it from a needs approach, there are two things needed. First we sometime need the current system when we are really trying to debug a

route (which is a very small amount of the total messages handled), but with the new regs we only need to keep the first BBS and the last handling the message (in order to keep forwarding timers working correctly) all the other headers are meaningless once handed over to the next station.

So - in theory the headers should be maybe 2 or 3 lines long, unless some type of debug statement is included not to strip. If it is determined that all the classsigns should be kept, then we are looking at a significantly reducing the length of the R-Headers instead of removing R-Headers.

By using the existing R: header structure - only a simple change has to be made in the way of coming up with a way to strip as the message is being received. I will leave up to the BBS software developers to invent some method of when a message is in debug mode and message is to keep all its headers, but this could be done in the first R-Header.

The analysis I want to finish is that of comparing the current system with what I am suggesting. The preliminary work showed that most messages consisted of a very high percentage of letters as the header. I think with a good research paper written for the PSR and published will help with the important issue of being able to logically discuss what is happening and what my proposed change would result in.

As a PhD student, doing research is sort of a mind set, but serious numbers need to be looked at to see what the outcome of such a change would be. If anything, it just means more messages get passed over time....since users will just fill any additional bandwidth we generate.

Maybe that helps.

Greg

20. Re: [BBSSIG:226] Re: Sysop proble

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 13:12:11 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.941202130346.3767C-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 2 Dec 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> > True, but with our 2 meter repeater down, and I have to go look at it
> > saturday, report due, project due, and finals in two weeks, It'll have to
> > wait...
>
> Hey! Another kindred spirit! Finals are always such fun!

Fun and mental death... I did get one project done and turned it... Now I have a week to get the report done on "Structured programming" by Dijkstra...

Plus tomorrow is "Bill and Ray, please fix the repeater" day...

> But how many messages does your system handle a day? Since the system
> does not keep any stats on this, it would be impossible to say how often
> this really happens. Even if the message had no headers, you are going to
> have messages like this.

Well, I get about 20 messages a day. It's just the local D8ARES, EPA, PANET, ARL, ALTDIV, and AMSAT distributions...

I can check to see how many failures there are with CBBS by doing a LK

and counting how many failed messages with the same header there are...

> By using the existing R: header structure - only a simple change has to
> be made in the way of coming up with a way to strip as the message is being
> received. I will leave up to the BBS software developers to invent some
> method of when a message is in debug mode and message is to keep all
> its headers, but this could be done in the first R-Header.

That's a good idea... I was thinking something similar:

R: DATE TIMEz LAST BBS INFO
PATH: call1, call2, call3, call4.... calln
R: DATE TIMEz Originating BBS info

And from what it sounds you and I think alike when it comes to that...

Sometimes when I get mail for the local dist, it's all calls for PATH:, and that is what I think would be nice to chop some of the large headers down...

> a good research paper written for the PSR and published will help with the
> important issue of being able to logically discuss what is happening and
> what my proposed change would result in.

Sounds good, please let me know more about your research as it comes around.... After finals... Classes are first...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

21. Re: [BBSSIG:226] Re: Sysop proble

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 14:57:22 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412021446.A3795-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 2 Dec 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> But how many messages does your system handle a day ? Since the system
> does not keep any stats on this, it would be impossible to say how often
> this really happens. Even if the message had no headers, you are going to
> have messages like this.
>
> > I personally use the:
> > Date timeZ mess#@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam [Bloomsburg] Z:17815
> >
> > I was thinking about putting the bid in there too, but that's too much...

Why not leave out the qth and zip? They aren't needed.

> Lots of Headers were nice when we had less than 200 BBSs in the US and were
> interested to see how things were moving and just how much time, etc was
> being used. Now with 1400+ BBSs and the number of messages being passed
> each day -- a serious look at how headers are used and generated is
> needed.
>
> If we look at it from a needs approach, there are two things needed. First
> we sometime need the current system when we are really trying to debug a
> route (which is a very small amount of the total messagess handled), but with
> the new regs we only need to keep the first BBS and the last handling the
> message (in order to keep forwarding timers working correctly) all the other
> headers are meaningless once handed other to the next station.

I don't think we need more than the first and last header on bulletins. However, I feel strongly that we need all of the headers (albeit shortened) on the personal traffic. If a bulletin is delayed, it is a so what issue, for the most part. But, with personal traffic we need the ability to trace the who and when part of it. I swear, there are some people who just don't care. I'm, right now, trying to get to the bottom of a consistent delay in traffic that comes to my users from WI. It seems a station likes to hang onto things for up to a month before sending it to the next station. Another one in the same path seems to like to hold for a week or so. Without the tracking ability, I would have no idea where to go to find the cause.

> So - in theory the headers should be maybe 2 or 3 lines long, unless some
> type of debug statement is included not to strip. If it is determined that
> all the classigns should be kept, then we are looking a significantly
> reducing the length of the R-Headers instead of removing R-Headers.

I've stripped headers on bulletins for several years, ever since the stripper came out for Roy's program. I carried it over with FBB. I see no reason my HD has to carry 3 times the content of the message. The original, the station forwarding to me, and my header are all that's on them when they leave here.

> If
> anything, it just means more messages get passed over time....since users

> will just fill any additional bandwidth we generate.

You got that right! Be it bandwidth, or hard drive capacity, it will always be filled. My new 1-gig is filling!

Gary

22. Header Lengths

From: djkd@dirku.demon.co.uk (Dirk-Jan Koopman)
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 1994 18:05:07 +0100 (GMT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rDcM0-0001ggC@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> According to William L. Barnes:
>
> Well - I think I posted what I had in mind before, but here it is
> again....just a refresher :-)
>
> Lots of Headers were nice when we had less than 200 BBSs in the US and were
> interested to see how things were moving and just how much time, etc was
> being used. Now with 1400+ BBSs and the number of messages being passed
> each day -- a serious look at how headers are used and generated is
> needed.
>
> If we look at it from a needs approach, there are two things needed. First
> we sometime need the current system when we are really trying to debug a
> route (which is a very small amount of the total messages handled), but with
> the new regs we only need to keep the first BBS and the last handling the
> message (in order to keep forwarding timers working correctly) all the other
> headers are meaningless once handed over to the next station.
>
> So - in theory the headers should be maybe 2 or 3 lines long, unless some
> type of debug statement is included not to strip. If it is determined that
> all the classnames should be kept, then we are looking at a significantly
> reducing the length of the R-Headers instead of removing R-Headers.
>
> By using the existing R: header structure - only a simple change has to
> be made in the way of coming up with a way to strip as the message is being
> received. I will leave up to the BBS software developers to invent some
> method of when a message is in debug mode and message is to keep all
> its headers, but this could be done in the first R-Header.
>
> The analysis I want to finish is that of comparing the current system with
> what I am suggesting. The preliminary work showed that most message
> consisted of a very high percentage of letters as the header. I think with
> a good research paper written for the PSR and published will help with the
> important issue of being able to logically discuss what is happening and
> what my proposed change would result in.
>
> As a PhD student, doing research is sort of a mind set, but serious numbers
> need to be looked at to see what the outcome of such a change would be. If
> anything, it just means more messages get passed over time....since users
> will just fill any additional bandwidth we generate.

Some time ago I wrote a simple little program that would go thru my BBSs
mailfiles calculating the proportion of headers to message content (ie
R: lines v the rest (some of which is still technically header or at
least redundant info).

[weary sigh mode on]

I ran a little campaign on packet which got me all sorts of flaming as
being 'useless' or 'a complete waste of time' etc etc, because I put out
a small bull every day with the previous day's header ratio in it. I
suspect some people didn't like to be reminded...

[weary sigh mode off].

Anyway the upshot of it was that over a period of time, the daily
statistic of headers/total_size_of_message varied between 45 and 51%.

That is between 45 and 51% of messages passing thru my BBS in the UK
(which was a particularly busy one and an international gateway) over a
sustained period were headers.

I put it to you, ladies and gents of the jury, that this level of usage
for redundant header information is unsustainable (and unnecessary) in
our modern packet network.

Oh and BTW (just to stir things up a bit more) if SMTP mail were to

travel the same no of hops as BBS traffic then the ratio of headers to message size would increase even more they are even more verbose than some of my compatriots' BBS headers.

23. delete all

From: cokstein@hoh.mbl.edu (Charles Okstein)
Date: Sat, 3 Dec 94 22:48:23 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412040348.AA23542@hoh.mbl.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

delete all

24. Re: [BBSSIG:229] Header Lengths

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Sun, 4 Dec 1994 09:35:10 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.941204093359.2338A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 2 Dec 1994, Dirk-Jan Koopman wrote:

> I put it to you, ladies and gents of the jury, that this level of usage
> for redundant header information is unsustainable (and unnecessary) in
> our modern packet network.

Here here! I agree with that... I read an amsat bull the other day
that I swear was nothing but headers and a line of text....

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

25. Header lengths

From: imotion@iu.net (Howard Goldstein)
Date: Sun, 04 Dec 1994 11:16:51 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412041621.LAA01206@bb.iu.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Is anyone else discouraged by the absence of BBS software author comments on the header length issue?

Howie N2WX imotion@iu.net

26. Scalable FSK Mpdem and Availability?

From: "VY2DCS, SEELER@UPEI.CA" <SEELER@upepei.ca>
Date: Mon, 05 Dec 1994 14:11:58 -0400 (AST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <01HKACNA7GTY9D4YLZ@upepei.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi - I am interested in the FSK modem that was described in the 13th ARRL Digital Conference (1994) which can do DC to 19k2. The paper was by W.-H. Rech and G. Jost. Has anyone had the opportunity to try this modem out? Has it been used for 220, 440 MHz operations - if so how did / does it do?

I have noticed that TAPR has indicated an interest in supplying 1.2GHz digital radio systems by G-W Rech. Does this system use the scalable baud rate FSK modem? Is the modem available separately?

Any information would be greatly appreciated!

73 for now - Dave Seeler, VY2DCS
Internet: Seeler@upepei.ca

27. Re: [BBSSIG:232] Header lengths

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 5 Dec 94 10:25:42 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <9412051025.ZM20101@hanko>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 4, 10:21am, Howard Goldstein wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:232] Header lengths

> Is anyone else discouraged by the absence of BBS software author comments on
> the header length issue?

>

> Howie N2WX imotion@iu.net

>

>

>-- End of excerpt from Howard Goldstein

No, not really ... there are tools available to do
pretty much whatever the sysop wants with message headers.

The standards effort dropped dead, without resolution
of many issues, including headers.

Some of us authors have simply given up on the idea
of the packet community reaching any accord, and have
gone off and done whatever we felt like with respect
to headers, forwarding designators, etc.

With zero cooperation from the community of sysops,
there is little chance to improve the system. Were
the sysops to become interested in these issues, and
be willing to reach consensus, then we could move forward.

With the continued bickering about NA vs. NOAM, "my BID
is better than your BID", "too many headers / too little
information in the headers", "don't you dare send it to
ALL @ WW", we are getting nowhere.

I plan to release some new servers in 1995:

MUNGEHDR - randomly changes information in all headers
on all messages. Many parameters available to the sysop
to control the type and severity of munging.

AUTODUP - duplicates random bulletins with random new BIDs.
Alters the headers so the path back to the station running
AUTODUP cannot be reliably determined.

FLAMER - keys off of a list of words found in message Subject
or Body. Generates an automatic nasty message to the sender,
plus an automatic flame bulleting in response. Uses the
technology from AUTODUP to obscure the path back to the originator.

GIFFER - Generates a daily 127 part GIF image of a subject of
the sysops choice. If the sysop has fast scan TV capability,
the image can be grabbed from a camera of the sysops choice.
(A nice image of the sysops tower, station, or pet might be
an appropriate choice here.)

These servers should help to move packet radio along the
direction it is currently headed. They will initially be
available for RLI, FBB, and MSYS, with 4RE, 1NNA, and NOS
versions to follow later in the year. Source code will be
freely available so that other authors can modify it to
support their systems.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

28. Re: [BBSSIG:234] Re: Header lengths

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 5 Dec 1994 13:26:37 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412051926.NAA09661@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Hank Oredson:

> With the continued bickering about NA vs. NOAM, "my BID
> is better than your BID", "too many headers / too little
> information in the headers", "don't you dare send it to
> ALL @ WW", we are getting nowhere.

Hank, you can't let the 10% (although BBS Sysops seem to run a little higher) who complain about everything deter effort. I believe the majority of BBS sysops appreciate any attempt to set recommendations.

You are never going to get rid of folks general ability to disagree. What I think we all try to focus on is the group that wants to make things work better. The other wengers are just a pain at times and usually burn out before the rest. Longevity is what seperates inidivuals that are interested in their aspect of the hobby and those that just are around.

As with anything, a group starts to do things (i.e. as in the BBSSIG or others) and continues to do things. Those that do, typically get followed. The amateur software/hardware motto -- Those that program or build define what everyone else uses.

My standard response to someone that starts to hit me about something is 'Sorry you don't like that...how can we get you involved in correcting it...how much you got? or what is your interest?' This results in either getting a new person involved or never hearing from them again. The key is to avoid reverse delegation (i.e. having the person ask you a question in which you do all the work to answer it :-)

So - it just takes time and patience.

Also, as with any volunteer group (which amateur radio is one) it takes a lot of word of mouth and education. A recommendation will never get adopted on a wide scale if it is rammed down folks thorats. So, the amount of time required for firendly chats and getting things moved in a slow but determined manner through articles and new software...just takes time.

I would think that a recommendation on a utility for header stripping could be arrived at. This could be used experimentally as a utlity and then over time incorporated into software.

I think that the spec that was being done for BBS forwarding was the right direction. Although maybe two many people were involved. Things like that get written by 2-3 people then edited by several more and then open for general comment. Not sure why things bogged down on the doc, since I only saw some of the edited drafts. Maybe you can shed some light.

Here's you pat on the back. Now lets have fun.

Cheers - greg

29. RE: [BBSSIG:234] Re: Header lengths

From: ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM
Date: Mon, 5 Dec 1994 15:42:27 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941205154227.34202b3a@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank -

Your new servers do sound like they will make easy work of what we have to do manually now. Could you change these to ASCII and break them into 22222222 parts for transmission over the AX.25 network?

Carl

30. Re: [BBSSIG:234] Re: Header lengths

From: Bob Wilkins <rwilkins@ccnet.com>
Date: Mon, 5 Dec 1994 13:47:58 -0800 (PST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412051356.B4650-0100000@ccnet>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 5 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:


```

> I plan to release some new servers in 1995:
>
> MUNGEHDR - randomly changes information in all headers
> on all messages. Many parameters available to the sysop
> to control the type and severity of munging.
>
> AUTODUP - duplicates random bulletins with random new BIDs.
> Alters the headers so the path back to the station running
> AUTODUP cannot be reliably determined.
>
> FLAMER - keys off of a list of words found in message Subject
> or Body. Generates an automatic nasty message to the sender,
> plus an automatic flame bulleting in response. Uses the
> technology from AUTODUP to obscure the path back to the originator.
>
> GIFFER - Generates a daily 127 part GIF image of a subject of
> the sysops choice. If the sysop has fast scan TV capability,
> the image can be grabbed from a camera of the sysops choice.
> (A nice image of the sysops tower, station, or pet might be
> an appropriate choice here.)
>
> These servers should help to move packet radio along the
> direction it is currently headed. They will initially be
> available for RLI, FBB, and MSYS, with 4RE, 1NNA, and NOS
> versions to follow later in the year. Source code will be
> freely available so that other authors can modify it to
> support their systems.
>
> ... Hank

```

Most of these features have all ready been fully integrated into the network. Some one should send a Gif decoder to the fellow in Namibia so he can see what we all look like ;) You can't break something that is really broken...lets fix it and then have some fun :).

Bob

Bob Wilkins	work	bwilkins@cave.org
Berkeley, California	home	rwilkins@ccnet.com
94701-0710	play	n6fri@n6eeg.#nocal.ca.usa.noam

31. Re: [BBSSIG:236] Re: Header lengths

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
 Date: Mon, 5 Dec 94 13:57:49 PST
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <9412051357.ZM20767@hanko>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

```

On Dec 5, 3:45pm, ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:236] Re: Header lengths
> Hank -
> Your new servers do sound like they will make easy work of what we have to
> do manually now. Could you change these to ASCII and break them into
222222222
> parts for transmission over the AX.25 network?
>
> Carl
>-- End of excerpt from ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM

```

Why certainly!

(as an aside, my latest release has a server to automatically grab all incoming 7PLUS messages, no matter how they happened to be addressed, so this makes a lot of sense).

I'll post the servers as soon as they are ready, right after I send out version 18.4 (it ends up, actually, as 197 parts, and yes, that actually DOES work in some networks).

Thanks for reminding me. Forgot to mention the 7PLUS autodistribution of the servers in my previous message.

Should I send them twice (once to ALL @ WW and also to SERVER @ WW) or is it better to send them to INFO @ WW with a Subject of "Don't read, this is an auto update." ?

I did forget to mention the WP update server: sent, of course,

to ALL @ WW with Subject of "Daily WP AutoUpdate."

Ain't this networking stuff fun!

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

32. Re: [BBSSIG:235] Re: Header lengths

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Mon, 5 Dec 1994 21:04:07 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412052018.A12121-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 5 Dec 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> As with anything, a group starts to do things (i.e. as in the BBSSIG or
> others) and continues to do things. Those that do, typically get followed.
> The amateur software/hardware motto -- Those that program or build define
> what everyone else uses.

Precisely why I believe that the code writers should FIX the code so it
can't be changed, and make everyone use the same standard. Remove the
ability to change headers, etc. Decide what is needed and what isn't,
and write it. The subject has been discussed until the network is blue.
Take the consensus and do it! I'll take whatever comes out of it, JUST
DO IT.

> I would think that a recommendation on a utility for header stripping could
> be arrived at. This could be used experimentally as a utility and then over
> time incorporated into software.

There are strippers out there that do it already. Why re-invent? For
that matter, why not have the software strip the header as it comes in?
Why have a utility? Leave the originator and the incoming, add the local.
Send it on to the next one and it repeats. Leave P/T out of the stripper,
only bulletins.

Gary

33. RE: [BBSSIG:234] Re: Header lengths

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Mon, 5 Dec 1994 20:23:27 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941205202327.d9a0@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Go for it, Hank... That should take care of a lot of "donkey dust!"

... Ed

34. Re: [BBSSIG:234] Re: Header lengths

From: dj@dirku.demon.co.uk (Dirk-Jan Koopman)
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 10:07:22 +0100 (GMT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rEwnq-0001a4C@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank said:

> No, not really ... there are tools available to do
> pretty much whatever the sysop wants with message headers.
>

Not in the software I (and most Europeans) use there isn't - can you
selectively remove extraneous headers in yours?

> The standards effort dropped dead, without resolution
> of many issues, including headers.

>
> Some of us authors have simply given up on the idea
> of the packet community reaching any accord, and have
> gone off and done whatever we felt like with respect
> to headers, forwarding designators, etc.
>
Most SYSOPS look to the authors for guidance, but I can quite understand your frustration. The trouble is that all the examples you cite are really non-issues, they are things that are debatable and things work perfectly well either way.

If you were to do some work on headers and issued it, it would either be used - or not (I suspect it would be used). Removing (selectively) redundant headers would be a material improvement to the network traffic information carrying capacity which most reasonable people would support.

Who cares how a bulletin got here? Personal mail might be different.

>
> I plan to release some new servers in 1995:
>
>

How about MAILBOMB.....

Luv

Dirk G1TLH

35. Re: [BBSSIG:238] Re: Header lengths

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 09:31:18 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.941206092928.5749A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 5 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:

> I did forget to mention the WP update server: sent, of course,
> to ALL @ WW with Subject of "Daily WP AutoUpdate."

And make sure that it rejects all qwerries from stations not using the .noam... Or .na, which ever you feel like codeing into it..

> Ain't this networking stuff fun!

Yes it is...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

36. Re: [BBSSIG:234] Re: Header lengths

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 12:09:57 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941206115612.25539B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 5 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Dec 4, 10:21am, Howard Goldstein wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:232] Header lengths
> > Is anyone else discouraged by the absence of BBS software author comments on
> > the header length issue?
> >
> > Howie N2WX imotion@iu.net
> >
> >
> >-- End of excerpt from Howard Goldstein
>
>
>
> With zero cooperation from the community of sysops,

> there is little chance to improve the system. Were
> the sysops to become interested in these issues, and
> be willing to reach consensus, then we could move forward.

I run FBB and can without any special training change the length of my header from several lines to 1/2 a line. I prefer 1/2 line and use same.

>
> With the continued bickering about NA vs. NOAM, "my BID
> is better than your BID", "too many headers / too little
> information in the headers", "don't you dare send it to
> ALL @ WW", we are getting nowhere.
>

Until someone can come up with a REAL technical or emotional reason for using NOAM I refuse to change. I have been reading the @WW mail and many other countries are trying, without success to get sysops to use 4 letter things for EU.

If someone could show me that having noam and na for the same place is hard on the satellite born computers or some thing like that, then it makes sense.

> I plan to release some new servers in 1995:
>
> MUNGEHDR - randomly changes information in all headers
> on all messages. Many parameters available to the sysop
> to control the type and severity of munging.

That sounds useful but just a simple crash of FBB already does this function.

>
> AUTODUP - duplicates random bulletins with random new BIDs.
> Alters the headers so the path back to the station running
> AUTODUP cannot be reliably determined.

Boy I need this one Hank. I want to do this to random messages and see how long it takes to track me down!

>
> FLAMER - keys off of a list of words found in message Subject
> or Body. Generates an automatic nasty message to the sender,
> plus an automatic flame bulleting in response. Uses the
> technology from AUTODUP to obscure the path back to the originator.
>

Will this run on FBB? I sure do need it! My flame generator has gotten clogged.

> GIFFER - Generates a daily 127 part GIF image of a subject of
> the sysops choice. If the sysop has fast scan TV capability,
> the image can be grabbed from a camera of the sysops choice.
> (A nice image of the sysops tower, station, or pet might be
> an appropriate choice here.)
>

How about X rated GIF's? That would make a lot more sense than the last 29 part 7+ @WW of a horse!

> These servers should help to move packet radio along the
> direction it is currently headed. They will initially be
> available for RLI, FBB, and MSYS, with 4RE, 1NNA, and NOS
> versions to follow later in the year. Source code will be
> freely available so that other authors can modify it to
> support their systems.
>

> ... Hank
>
>

Merry Christmas Hank, de karl, k5di

>
>
>
>
>

> --
>
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
> Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM
>

37. Re: [BBSSIG:243] Re: Header lengths

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 13:40:25 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412061940.NAA20662@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Until someone can come up with a REAL technical or emotional
> reason for using NOAM I refuse to change. I have been reading the @WW
> mail and many other countries are trying, without success to get sysops
> to use 4 letter things for EU.
>

Karl - switch or don't switch. I and others don't care.

It is a free world and I think we would all hope that others don't take your attitude of not trying to help things with a 1 min change to your system that does not really effect your system in order to help promote better operations (which has been stated both technically and emotionally).

Most of us will continue to support the recommendation and now it is time to move on to other things. The debate is over until such time as new materials on this issue come up. Something about beating a dead comes to mind.

NOAM has been recommended and will eventually be used by more, becuae as the new materials come out and new people come on-line they will hopefully be using NOAM....so after a while you and a few others will be relics using NA and it will get changed by the BBS next to you when they forward your stuff.

Have fun.

Roy and Hank -- do I need to gather the data on the header issue or do you two have a consensus on stripping all but the first and last headers when being received ? Hate to do work that doesn't need to be done.

I liked the suggestion about doing it for bulletins and leaving them on personal mail....that would eliminate the need for a debug option, since if you wanted to test you just send a personal mail message. This would also impact the most messages.

It would make sense that this could be implmented in both the actual BBS software as new releases come out and probably should have a utility to support those that are not upgrading and/or use other BBS software. This way a full solution is available for everyone.

Greg

38. RE: [BBSSIG:244] Re: Header lengths

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Tue, 06 Dec 94 15:28:00 PST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EE4F2AB@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Roy and Hank -- do I need to gather the data on the header issue or do you
>two have a consensus on stripping all but the first and last headers when
>being received ? Hate to do work that doesn't need to be done.
>
>I liked the suggestion about doing it for bulletins and leaving them on
>personal mail....that would eliminate the need for a debug option, since if
>you wanted to test you just send a personal mail message. This would also
>impact the most messages.

Instead of totally removing the headers why not just reduce the average 60-80 characters of useless garbage in them. A callsign separated by a bang mark would suffice and reduce the number of characters down to 7 or less per bbs. The H-addr and time from the originating bbs needs to be retained, but

the city, timestamp, zipcode, comments from all the bbs(s) in between are not needed. Let the local lans fix forwarding problems between bbses and ignore it on the national (global) level.

Mike

39. Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: ac448@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Roy E Gould)
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 94 13:32:50 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412062032.AA01149@rgfn.epcc.Edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Gentlemen: I have recently been part of producing a flurry of message to me saying that a message posted on a BBS that I am the sysop of, was illegal. I have read a portion of your position paper on appropriate BBS bulletins with interest as it indicates that perhaps you believe that the CAR FOR SALE message may not be illegal, but only inappropriate for Amateur Radio. Your position paper did not mention CAR, but a camping tent.

Any thoughts on this would be appreciated.

If possible, please put me on your bbssig mailing list at ac448@rgfn.epdd.edu.

Thanks & 73, Roy Gould N5RG sysop WTNM:K5WPH IN El Paso, Texas

40. Re: [BBSSIG:244] Re: Header lengths

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 94 12:34:48 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412061234.ZM26110@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 6, 1:44pm, Greg Jones wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:244] Re: Header lengths

>

> Roy and Hank -- do I need to gather the data on the header issue or do you
> two have a consensus on stripping all but the first and last headers when
> being received ? Hate to do work that doesn't need to be done.

I already have the code to do any/all of the above, but have not made some of the options visible to the sysop. Did a test last night, and found that headers make up less than 30% of all message text. Removing all headers except first and last saves perhaps 25% of total bytes transferred. This is not a real big deal. Will run the same test on another message sample next week, when I have a "fresh batch" of 1500 or so messages available.

> I liked the suggestion about doing it for bulletins and leaving them on
> personal mail....that would eliminate the need for a debug option, since if
> you wanted to test you just send a personal mail message. This would also
> impact the most messages.

In my experience, NTS and personal messages route pretty well, but when there are problems the headers are a valuable resource for tracking down the problems. Bulletins appear to generally route poorly, suffer from many duplicates and other problems in distribution. The headers are a necessity for tracking these problems.

For a couple years I've run some distribution list software that removes all but the first and last header (personal messages). Have never had any comment on this, and it has worked just fine.

> It would make sense that this could be implmented in both the actual BBS
> software as new releases come out and probably should have a utility to
> support those that are not upgrading and/or use other BBS software. This
> way a full solution is available for everyone.

I'll probably make all the options "sysop visible" in the Christmas release, so that folks can play around with the various kinds of header modification. My asbestos suit and bit bucket are in good repair for all the flames that will result ...

This is all minor stuff though. Like Brian's code, mine has used rfc-822 compliant message transfer (between systems that support it)

for awhile. This is where we need to spend our effort - adopting a "real" standard. Bulletins need to be catagorized by newsgroup, just like usenet. Time to absolute the old stuff and get on with life.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

41. Re: [BBSSIG:245] Re: Header lengths

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 94 12:38:54 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412061238.ZM26115@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 6, 2:30pm, Murphree Michael A wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:245] Re: Header lengths

>

>

> >Roy and Hank -- do I need to gather the data on the header issue or do you
> >two have a consensus on stripping all but the first and last headers when
> >being received ? Hate to do work that doesn't need to be done.

> >

> >I liked the suggestion about doing it for bulletins and leaving them on
> >personal mail....that would eliminate the need for a debug option, since if
> >you wanted to test you just send a personal mail message. This would also
> >impact the most messages.

>

> Instead of totally removing the headers why not just reduce the average
> 60-80

> characters of useless garbage in them. A callsign separated by a bang mark
> would suffice and reduce the number of characters down to 7 or less per
> bbs. The H-addr and time from the originating bbs needs to be retained, but

>

> the city, timestamp, zipcode, comments from all the bbs(s) in between are
> not

> needed. Let the local lans fix forwarding problems between bbses and ignore
> it on the national (global) level.

Been doing so for a long time now, and the BBS Specification specifically allows for it, and specifies the minimum information required.

Got a record amount of hate mail when this first appeared!

The minumum required header is:

R:YYMMDD/HHMM nnnn@bbs.loc

e.g.

R:941205/1213 21894@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

If the software you run does not allow for this short header, and does not allow you to normalize ALL headers passing through your system, you might want to request that capability from it's author.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

42. STRIPPERS

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 15:44:01 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: frankg@panix.com
Message-ID: <199412062044.AA11988@panix.com>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Something to consider about header strippers is that we (sysops) will no longer know who imported a certain bulletin . There are WW bulletins that begin life outside of these United States (hard to believe) and enter via various " importers " like F6CNB etc. Some are unfit for distribution here.

I asked some time ago but there was no consensus. Who is responsible when importing foreign messages. Is it the first BBS in FCC jurisdiction ? How will we know if the headers are gone.

Just wondering...maybe its just as well we dont know!

73

Frank - WA2NDV
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

43. Re: [BBSSIG:243] Re: Header lengths

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 94 12:24:24 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412061224.ZM26105@hank>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 6, 1:17pm, Klarsen wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:243] Re: Header lengths
>
> On Mon, 5 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:
>
> > On Dec 4, 10:21am, Howard Goldstein wrote:
> > > Subject: [BBSSIG:232] Header lengths
> > > Is anyone else discouraged by the absence of BBS software author comments
on
> > > the header length issue?
> > >
> > > Howie N2WX imotion@iu.net
> > >
> > >
> > >--- End of excerpt from Howard Goldstein
> >

> > With the continued bickering about NA vs. NOAM, "my BID
> > is better than your BID", "too many headers / too little
> > information in the headers", "don't you dare send it to
> > ALL @ WW", we are getting nowhere.
> >
> Until someone can come up with a REAL technical or emotional
> reason for using NOAM I refuse to change. I have been reading the @WW
> mail and many other countries are trying, without success to get sysops
> to use 4 letter things for EU.
>
> If someone could show me that having noam and na for the same
> place is hard on the satellite born computers or some thing like that,
> then it makes sense.

And here we arrive at the crux of the matter.

Since there are at least two "standards" in use for all the things I mentioned, the only way to arrive at an actual standard is for SOME folks to change. The continued "... I see no reason to change ..." is what is holding things up. There is a good reason to change: so that we have a standard. Otherwise we drop right back to "My NA is better than your NOAM", "This message rejected because it has a bad address", etc. etc. etc.

The original designators were chosen simply to get started. There was no magic about them. I know, I was there when they were chosen. We (those who choose them originally) EXPECTED to change them once we had some experience using them. Tom Clark made the first proposal to change, in 1986. Since then, for a whole eight years, there has been NO consensus at all. So we are stuck with multiple (and thus totally useless) standards, and the continued bickering.

Personally I do not care, nor does my software care, WHICH standard is chosen, or IF a standard is chosen. However I do think that

the inability of the community to come to agreement on this one very simple matter sends a message to all the code authors. The message is "It doesn't matter what you do because the community will not agree that anything you do is correct."

So we pretty much go off our own directions ... and the community as a whole suffers ... because if we DID have a standard then all that code that supports "anyone doing anything" would not have to be written.

I actually gave up on this issue almost five years ago. My attitude now is "You want it, you get it, no matter what it is."

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

44. Re: Header lengths

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Tue, 06 Dec 1994 13:46:54 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412062147.NAA07545@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank said;

>

>For a couple years I've run some distribution list software that removes
>all but the first and last header (personal messages). Have never had
>any comment on this, and it has worked just fine.
>

There's no doubt that header overhead would drop dramatically, even 30% is a huge reduction, but I, and many others, use every R:Line we receive to automatically build and maintain our Hierarchial Lookup Tables.

P&T headers cannot provide adequate data for this task.

There may be legal questions here as well. The headers are a log of that particular messages history, there probably is no requirement to create it, but once it exists can another party (subsequent BBS) legally destroy it?

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

45. Re: [BBSSIG:251] Re: Header lengths

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 94 14:12:27 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412061412.ZM26248@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 6, 3:55pm, Mike Fahmie wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:251] Re: Header lengths

> Hank said;

> >

> >For a couple years I've run some distribution list software that removes
> >all but the first and last header (personal messages). Have never had
> >any comment on this, and it has worked just fine.
> >

>

> There's no doubt that header overhead would drop dramatically, even
> 30% is a huge reduction, but I, and many others, use every R:Line we
> receive to automatically build and maintain our Hierarchial Lookup Tables.

So do most systems.

> P&T headers cannot provide adequate data for this task.

Why?

> There may be legal questions here as well. The headers are a log of that

> particular messages history, there probably is no requirement to create
> it, but once it exists can another party (subsequent BBS) legally destroy
> it?

What precedent?

I think we have been over this "ownership of the data" issue several times, with the result that it is clear that the originator has no ownership once the message has been posted, and each forwarder has no responsibility to anyone to handle the message in any particular way. Note that here I mean "legal responsibility" and "legal ownership".

The ethics of sysop behavior is a different question, and certainly is up for debate. In fact we badly need some standards here as well as in the other areas we are discussing.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

46. Re: Header lengths

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Tue, 06 Dec 1994 16:09:09 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412070009.QAA16373@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 6, 4:22pm ,Hank wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:252] Re: Header lengths

>> >
>> >For a couple years I've run some distribution list software that removes
>> >all but the first and last header (personal messages). Have never had
>> >any comment on this, and it has worked just fine.
>> >
>> >
>> There's no doubt that header overhead would drop dramatically, even
>> 30% is a huge reduction, but I, and many others, use every R:Line we
>> receive to automatically build and maintain our Hierarchial Lookup Tables.
>
>So do most systems.
>
>> P&T headers cannot provide adequate data for this task.
>
>Why?

An end of the line BBS such as ours is not in the mainstream of P & T traffic. We receive only what is addressed to us as the end-user so to speak. Typically, we receive about 150 bulletins/day from all over the country and maybe 5 or 10 P&T types, most of them locally originated. If all but the first and last R:Lines are removed from bulletins, the value of what remains is hardly worth the effort to process them.

On the other hand, if your system is a truck stop on the info highway, P&T traffic can be quite significant, but for most of us, P&T JUST WON'T DO IT !

>
>> There may be legal questions here as well. The headers are a log of that
>> particular messages history, there probably is no requirement to create
>> it, but once it exists can another party (subsequent BBS) legally destroy
>> it?
>
>What precedent?
>
I don't pretend to be a lawyer, but I think that the record provided by the R:Lines is clearly a log. I know that the FCC requires logs of our amateur station to be preserved for a year, yes, they have markedly reduced what we are required

to log, but we still must preserve it. Since I am not a lawyer, I only communicate my concerns. Can someone knowledgeable in the law comment further ??

>I think we have been over this "ownership of the data" issue several
>times, with the result that it is clear that the originator has no
>ownership once the message has been posted, and each forwarder has
>no responsibility to anyone to handle the message in any particular
>way. Note that here I mean "legal responsibility" and "legal ownership".
>

I never said that the originator retained rights to the message, I only said that destroying the log MAY be illegal.

>The ethics of sysop behavior is a different question, and certainly
>is up for debate. In fact we badly need some standards here as well
>as in the other areas we are discussing.
>

Agreed!

> ... Hank
>

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

47. Re: [BBSSIG:245] Re: Header lengths

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 19:04:08 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412061852.A10458-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 6 Dec 1994, Murphree Michael A wrote:

> Instead of totally removing the headers why not just reduce the average
> 60-80
> characters of useless garbage in them. A callsign separated by a bang mark
> would suffice and reduce the number of characters down to 7 or less per
> bbs. The H-addr and time from the originating bbs needs to be retained, but
> the city, timestamp, zipcode, comments from all the bbs(s) in between are
> not needed.

What is the difference between TIME and TIMESTAMP in the above paragraph?
Never mind, I see what you mean now...and I agree. Yes, let's have an
originating date/time marking WITHIN the text of all traffic. However, I
also believe that we need a complete date/timestamp for each header IN P/T
mail. Without them, we can't find the problems (see below).

> Let the local lans fix forwarding problems between bbses and ignore
> it on the national (global) level.

Wrong! This simply does not work. Problems have been around for years
and they don't go away. My problems of WEEKS of delays at given points
along the path a few states east of here are there, day after day, month
after month, year after year. They don't cure themselves, and they don't
get cured by others either. At least I can tell where the problems are
with date/timestamping in EACH header. You're right. I can't cure it,
but I can point to it when someone asks.

I support call!call!call! in the bulletins, but let's keep callsign,
date/time in the header and all headers on all P/T traffic. The rest?
How about the bid? Has anyone come up with a way to keep the bid from
being changed? Until then, we probably need the bid in the header to
spot where it is being changed (hard coded, again). The QTH? Don't
care. GS? Even less. Same for zip.

While you're at it (authors), how about fixing it so that all locally
originated bulletins are held automatically by the bbs. No choice, hold
them. Does anyone realize how many boards are being run at this time
without any local holds? How many motorhomes, houses, motorcycles,
airplanes, cars, does it take to know that sysops are not holding locally
originated bulls?

Gary

48. Re: [BBSSIG:246] Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 19:06:45 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412061945.A10458-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 6 Dec 1994, Roy E Gould wrote:

>
>
> Gentlemen: I have recently been part of producing a flurry of message to me
> saying that a message posted on a BBS that I am the sysop of, was illegal.
> I have read a portion of your position paper on appropriate BBS bulletins
> with interest as it indicates that perhaps you believe that the CAR FOR SALE
> message may not be illegal, but only inappropriate for Amateur Radio.
> Your position paper did not mention CAR, but a camping tent.
>
> Any thoughts on this would be appreciated.

I rest my case!

How does someone get to be sysop without knowing what is legal?

Gary

49. Re: [BBSSIG:247] Re: Header lengths

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 19:21:41 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412061956.A11093-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 6 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Dec 6, 1:44pm, Greg Jones wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:244] Re: Header lengths
>
>
> >
> > Roy and Hank -- do I need to gather the data on the header issue or do you
> > two have a consensus on stripping all but the first and last headers when
> > being received? Hate to do work that doesn't need to be done.
>
> I already have the code to do any/all of the above, but have not made
> some of the options visible to the sysop. Did a test last night, and
> found that headers make up less than 30% of all message text.

Over a two year period, and recently confirmed, I have found an AVERAGE
of 50% headers. Many run 65% or higher. Headers run over a page in
length when read in verbose mode (page=screen). Perhaps you are too
close to the source on many of them and downstream of my stripper on the
rest! :)

> Removing
> all headers except first and last saves perhaps 25% of total bytes
> transferred. This is not a real big deal.

No, it isn't, if you accept those number. I don't.

> > I liked the suggestion about doing it for bulletins and leaving them on
> > personal mail....that would eliminate the need for a debug option, since if
> > you wanted to test you just send a personal mail message. This would also
> > impact the most messages.
>
> In my experience, NTS and personal messages route pretty well, but
> when there are problems the headers are a valuable resource for tracking
> down the problems. Bulletins appear to generally route poorly, suffer
> from many duplicates and other problems in distribution. The headers
> are a necessity for tracking these problems.

Agreed.

> I'll probably make all the options "sysop visible" in the Christmas
> release, so that folks can play around with the various kinds of header
> modification. My asbestos suit and bit bucket are in good repair for
> all the flames that will result ...

Modification? How easy is it going to be for Joe Revenge to mangle a header to make it look like so and so is an even bigger bozo than he is? The answer to your next question is yes.

> rfc-822 compliant message transfer (between systems that support it)
> for awhile. This is where we need to spend our effort - adopting a
> "real" standard. Bulletins need to be catagorized by newsgroup, just
> like usenet. Time to absolate the old stuff and get on with life.

Yes! When are we going to separate bulletins from mail? This should be a focus.

> ... Hank

Hi Hank. Not picking on you, just trying to stess my point!

Gary

50. Re: [BBSSIG:253] Re: Header lengths

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 1994 19:38:43 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412061943.A11271-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 6 Dec 1994, Mike Fahmie wrote:

> > P&T headers cannot provide adaaquate data for this task.
> >
> >Why?
>
> An end of the line BBS such as ours is not in the mainstream
> of P & T traffic. We receive only what is addressed to us as
> the end-user so to speak. Typically, we receive about 150
> bulletins/day from all over the country and maybe 5 or10 P&T
> types, most of them locally originated. If all but the first and
> last R:Lines are removed from bulletins, the value of what
> remains is hardly worth the effort to process them.

What you state above also proves that you don't need to have a large wp file. Why store all that information that you will never use? I've thought about the lack of wp updates from headers for a long time and came to the conclusion that I could easily live with the smaller wp database that would be generated by receiving only the first header in a bulletin and all in a P/T message. The data would be more meaningful since it would be updated by those stations that actually originate traffic. Hierarchical addressing takes care of the occassional message that you don't have a wp record of.

> On the other hand, if your system is a truck stop on the info
> highway, P&T traffic can be quite significant, but for most of
> us, P&T JUST WON'T DO IT !

While I know a FEW people who are in deadend positions, I find the use of the word MOST (most of us) to be highly exaggerative.

> R:Lines
> is clearly a log. I know that the FCC requires logs of our amateur station
> to be
> preserved for a year, yes, they have markedly reduced what we are required
> to log, but we still must preserve it.

Since we are not required to log, why should we keep it a year? I don't have time to look right now, but I seriously doubt that we are still required to keep a log a year. I suppose you keep all of your bbs traffic a year? If you do, you are one of a small minority. I happen to archive it, but know few others "in my circle" who do.

Gary

51. Re: Header lengths

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Wed, 07 Dec 94 10:57:00 PST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>

Message-ID: <2EE604AC@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>

Rendered body type: text/plain

>I don't pretend to be a lawyer, but I think that the record provided by the
>R:Lines
>is clearly a log. I know that the FCC requires logs of our amateur station
>to be
>preserved for a year, yes, they have markedly reduced what we are required
>to log, but we still must preserve it. Since I am not a lawyer, I only
>communicate
>my concerns. Can someone knowledgeable in the law comment further ??

The only messages that you have any responsibility for are those generated at your bbs. Generating a log for every message passing thru your bbs would be wasteful. Therefore R: lines as a logging mechanism are useless, since they are only apply when a message is forwarded. Logging required for station contacts where automatic forwarding is not allowed would be a different issue.

The bbs software that I'm currently using keeps logs separately from messages. It can also archive messages as required. It would be impossible to save all messages received thru the bbs for any substantial length time due to space limitations. (short of having a WORM drive).

The station log requirements have substantially changed over the years, does anyone have recent information on what, if any, requirement exists?

There will always be some need for diagnostics in addition to requirements, but there isn't a good reason to force it on every message flowing thru the pipe.

Mike

P.S. Hank, do you know of any way to fix the @#\$\$@ optical mouse response when Mentor runs on a Sun EWS?

52. Re: [BBSSIG:255] Re: Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)

Date: Wed, 7 Dec 94 10:24:23 PST

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <9412071024.ZM27114@hanko>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 6, 8:12pm, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>

> How does someone get to be sysop without knowing what is legal?

The exact same way they got their license without knowing what is legal.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

53. Re: [BBSSIG:254] Re: Header lengths

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)

Date: Wed, 7 Dec 94 10:23:25 PST

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <9412071023.ZM27109@hanko>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 6, 8:11pm, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

> While you're at it (authors), how about fixing it so that all locally
> originated bulletins are held automatically by the bbs. No choice, hold
> them. Does anyone realize how many boards are being run at this time
> without any local holds? How many motorhomes, houses, motorcycles,
> airplanes, cars, does it take to know that sysops are not holding locally
> originated bulls?

Why would I want to do this, and what does it have to do with vehicles? I'm confused. Perhaps you do not trust

(or do not educate) your users?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

54. what's really wrong

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Wed, 7 Dec 1994 18:32:39 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412080032.SAA29345@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank,

Take a clean sheet of paper.

What are the top 3 things wrong with the packet network?

How should these problems be addressed?

Barry wa0rjt

55. Re: [BBSSIG:261] what's really wrong

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 7 Dec 94 17:49:55 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412071749.ZM27634@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 7, 6:35pm, Barry Buelow - WA0RJT wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:261] what's really wrong
> Hank,
>
> Take a clean sheet of paper.
>
> What are the top 3 things wrong with the packet network?
>
> How should these problems be addressed?
>
> Barry wa0rjt

You are asking the wrong person ... because you will get answers that many sysops do not like. But since you asked:

Here is what I think is wrong (not in any order):

1. "King of the Mountain" sysops and network managers.
(You know, those folks who are busy telling the users what they should NOT do, instead of helping them do it.)
2. Lack of standards that application authors, users, sysops, network managers can work from.
3. Use of non-amateur communications facilities.

I'll leave it up to the group to agree/disagree and propose solutions.

As to "how" to address them ... well ... here we are ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

56. Re: [BBSSIG:246] Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Wed, 7 Dec 94 20:48:13 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412080248.AA106519@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
>
>
> Gentlemen: I have recently been part of producing a flurry of message to me
> saying that a message posted on a BBS that I am the sysop of, was illegal.
> I have read a portion of your position paper on appropriate BBS bulletins
> with interest as it indicates that perhaps you believe that the CAR FOR SALE
> message may not be illegal, but only inappropriate for Amateur Radio.
> Your position paper did not mention CAR, but a camping tent.
>
> Any thoughts on this would be appreciated.
>
> If possible, please put me on your bbssig mailing list at ac448@rgfn.epdd.edu.
>
> Thanks & 73, Roy Gould N5RG sysop WTNM:K5WPH IN El Paso, Texas
>
Check the November 94 issue of QST (it's probably still lying around on the coffee table...) for detailed instrux on how to subscribe to the TAPR internet lists. If you are active in an organization or club, share this info with sysops. I will repost the online version of signup instrux very soon so that you may download them and pass them along.

About what is permissable and is not permissable:
Part 97, especially 97.113, includes what may and may not be communicated by way of amateur radio. You want to sell your old Drake twins because you just a new Kenwood TS-850? That's okay to post. You want to sell some duck twins? That's not okay to post.

It is my understanding that the TAPR position paper will be published in the January 95 Packet Perspectives column and in an upcoming W5YI Report.

73 de Dave W05H
TAPR BBS SIG Chair

57. Re: [BBSSIG:258] Re: Header lengths

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Wed, 7 Dec 94 21:10:43 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412080310.AA106855@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

To answer Michael Murphree's question about logging requirements:

A log, as we 'oldtimers' remember it varying degrees of fondness, is a thing of the past. You do not have to record incidences of routine communications. About the only requirement I can find in Part 97 for keeping track of digital coms is if you use a non-standard digital code. In that case you must record the content-- details are in Part 97 for the extremely curious. Or bored.

There is no reason to keep a log of your packet messages, unless you are keeping score.

Dave W05H

58. Re: Header lengths

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Wed, 07 Dec 1994 20:06:28 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412080407.UAA11060@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>To answer Michael Murphree's question about logging requirements:

>

>A log, as we 'oldtimers' remember it varying degrees of fondness, is a
>thing of the past. You do not have to record incidences of routine
>communications. About the only requirement I can find in Part 97 for
>keeping track of digital coms is if you use a non-standard digital code.
>In that case you must record the content-- details are in Part 97 for
>the extremely curious. Or bored.

>
>There is no reason to keep a log of your packet messages, unless you are
>keeping score.
>
>Dave W05H
>
>
No argument with that, my original question acknowledged that. I asked that
once the log had been created, could it legally be changed by another party.
The log I refer to is the one created by the R:Lines in each message, not a
physical logbook.

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

59. tap tap is this on ???

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Wed, 7 Dec 1994 23:46:16 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412080446.AA24334@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hey Dave is anyone seeing my posts or am I wasting my time/bandwidth.
This is the second posting I offered up and NOTHING ?
HAS this turned into HANK's private mail list or something ???

73
--
Frank
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

60. Re: [BBSSIG:259] Re: Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 1994 00:31:58 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412080025.A6311-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 7 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Dec 6, 8:12pm, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
>
> >
> > How does someone get to be sysop without knowing what is legal?
>
> The exact same way they got their license without knowing what is legal.
>
> ... Hank

Nice shot, Hank! I'm proud of ya!

Gary

61. Re: [BBSSIG:260] Re: Header lengths

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 1994 00:35:12 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9412080044.A6311-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 7 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Dec 6, 8:11pm, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
>
> > While you're at it (authors), how about fixing it so that all locally
> > originated bulletins are held automatically by the bbs. No choice, hold
> > them. Does anyone realize how many boards are being run at this time
> > without any local holds? How many motorhomes, houses, motorcycles,
> > airplanes, cars, does it take to know that sysops are not holding locally
> > originated bulls?
>
> Why would I want to do this, and what does it have to do
> with vehicles? I'm confused. Perhaps you do not trust
> (or do not educate) your users?
>
> ... Hank

You are right. All users can't be trusted. Most can, however. But, if you look at the stuff listed for sale that clearly lays outside the relationship to amateur radio, it is clear that some sysops trust their users who shouldn't.

Gary

62. Re: [BBSSIG:266] tap tap is this on ???

From: djkdirku.demon.co.uk (Dirk-Jan Koopman)
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 1994 09:41:12 +0100 (GMT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rFfLc-0001a3C@dirku>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> Hey Dave is anyone seeing my posts or am I wasting my time/bandwidth.
> This is the second posting I offered up and NOTHING ?
> HAS this turned into HANK's private mail list or something ???
>
It's on, I can here you knocking....
Dirk G1TLH

63. Re: [BBSSIG:266] tap tap is this on ???

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 4:42:36 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412081042.AA112334@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Frank: Your posting made it.

The SIG is wide open and humming... ;-))

Dave W05H

64. Re: [BBSSIG:268] Re: Header lengths

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 4:49:34 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412081049.AA112342@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
>
>
> On Wed, 7 Dec 1994, Hank Oredson wrote:
>
> > On Dec 6, 8:11pm, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
> >
> > > While you're at it (authors), how about fixing it so that all locally
> > > originated bulletins are held automatically by the bbs. No choice, hold
> > > them. Does anyone realize how many boards are being run at this time
> > > without any local holds? How many motorhomes, houses, motorcycles,
> > > airplanes, cars, does it take to know that sysops are not holding locally
> > > originated bulls?
> >
> > Why would I want to do this, and what does it have to do
> > with vehicles? I'm confused. Perhaps you do not trust
> > (or do not educate) your users?
> >
> > ... Hank
>
> You are right. All users can't be trusted. Most can, however. But, if
> you look at the stuff listed for sale that clearly lays outside the
> relationship to amateur radio, it is clear that some sysops trust their
> users who shouldn't.
>
> Gary
>
This thread should become 'for sale content' methinks ;-)!

Let me tell you what many of us have done in Texas--
using 4RE's 'tell before' function, when some posts a 'for sale'
bulletin, a short message comes up advising the bbs policy on such.
Mine include a note that the bull should include a mailing address or
phone number in that on-air negotiation is a rules violation. My note
also tells them that sale@allus bulls are not accepted on my BBS.
Not my original idea-- conceived by Clarke K3WGF to whom my thanks go

for figuring out one way to handle one of our tricky situations...

Dave W05H
BBS SIG Chair

65. [BBSSIG:212] Re: Sysop proble

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 94 07:19:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412081807.AA040960050@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:212] Re: Sysop proble
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Fri 2-Dec-94 7:19

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

66. Re: [BBSSIG:267] Re: Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: klotts@PrimeNet.Com (Ken Lotts)
Date: Thu, 08 Dec 1994 11:40:32 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412081841.LAA14967@news.primenet.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 01:39 AM 12/8/94 CST, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
>Nice shot, Hank! I'm proud of ya!
>
>Gary
>
>

Is the purpose of this list to broadcast "shots" ?

I propose that courtesy goes a long way..

Ken

67. Re: [BBSSIG:266] tap tap is this on ???

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 14:17:41 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412081417.ZM29180@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 7, 10:54pm, Frank Garofalo wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:266] tap tap is this on ???
> Hey Dave is anyone seeing my posts or am I wasting my time/bandwidth.
> This is the second posting I offered up and NOTHING ?
> HAS this turned into HANK's private mail list or something ???
>
> 73
> --
> Frank
> frankg@panix.com
> [your ad here]

Hi there! This is "HANK's private mail list".
Have a happy holiday!

(What is your fee for putting my ad here?)

>-- End of excerpt from Frank Garofalo

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"

68. Re: [BBSSIG:273] Re: Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 14:24:05 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412081424.ZM29185@hank>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Dec 8, 12:46pm, Ken Lotts wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:273] Re: Is Mustang Message Illegal ?
> At 01:39 AM 12/8/94 CST, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
> >Nice shot, Hank! I'm proud of ya!
> >
> >Gary
> >
> >
> >
> Is the purpose of this list to broadcast "shots" ?
> >
> I propose that courtesy goes a long way..
> >
> >
> Ken
> >
>--- End of excerpt from Ken Lotts

And so does humor, please turn you sense of same back on.

I hope this group remains fun ...

And yes, my response was serious and not a cheap shot.

Sysops that don't know the regs are like any other ham that does not know the regs: ignorant, and presumably educatable. When we run across them, we educate them, is it not so? However to educate we first have to notice that education is required. That's what we are talking about in this thread. Presumably the forthcoming TAPR guidelines will give all of us some help in educating our users.

However, those guidelines have to be reviewed and comment on, so that they are made as good as possible. We are doing that.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

69. [BBSSIG:243] Re: Header lengths

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 02:55:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412100243.AA248017384@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:243] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 2:55

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

70. [BBSSIG:276] Re: Header lengths (fwd)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Fri, 9 Dec 1994 21:01:59 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)

Message-ID: <199412100302.VAA06318@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

This is showing up on several lists.

Please, who ever is expanding the lists, remove this response.

Greg

According to genie-postmaster@geis.com:
>From bbssig@tapr.org Fri Dec 9 20:54:59 1994
Date: Fri, 9 Dec 94 20:53 CST
Message-Id: <199412100243.AA248017384@relay2.geis.com>
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org
Originator: bbssig@tapr.org
Sender: bbssig@tapr.org
Precedence: bulk
From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Subject: [BBSSIG:276] Re: Header lengths
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0c -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:243] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 2:55

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

71. [BBSSIG:270] Re: tap tap is this on ???

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 14:12:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412100710.AA162083413@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:270] Re: tap tap is this on ???
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 14:12

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

72. [BBSSIG:250] Re: Header lengths

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Wed, 7 Dec 94 18:51:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412100719.AA183953990@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:250] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Wed 7-Dec-94 18:51

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

73. [BBSSIG:218] Re: Sysop proble

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Fri, 2 Dec 94 18:06:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412101256.AA023674186@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:218] Re: Sysop proble
System: QUIK-COMM

Date: Fri 2-Dec-94 18:06

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

74. [BBSSIG:260] Re: Header lengths

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 09:41:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412101309.AA048044970@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:260] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 9:41

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

75. [BBSSIG:245] Re: Header lengths

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Wed, 7 Dec 94 19:55:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412101544.AA291844267@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:245] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Wed 7-Dec-94 19:55

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

76. [BBSSIG:216] Re: Sysop proble

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Sun, 4 Dec 94 22:14:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412101604.AA035975493@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:216] Re: Sysop proble
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Sun 4-Dec-94 22:14

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

77. [BBSSIG:235] Re: Header lengths

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Tue, 6 Dec 94 10:11:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412101710.AA139799452@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:235] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Tue 6-Dec-94 10:11

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

78. GEIS.COM Return Message

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sat, 10 Dec 1994 16:05:09 -0600 (CST)
To: netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)

Message-ID: <199412102205.QAA09156@Gayle-Gaston.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks for all the mail regarding the return mail.

I took care of the problem yesterday and hopefully it will come to an end shortly as the mail is handled by that system. There are two users on that system and both of their mail is getting returned.

Please just delete them until they stop.

Greg

79. OS/2 help wanted

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 11 Dec 94 10:53:58 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412111653.AA150128@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Loaded OS/2 onto my user BBS computer and can get BPQ + AA4RE to come up okay. One little problem with which I can use some help, if someone has been down this trail before:

The BBS software is communicating both ways through the actual serial ports, and apparently sending data okay to the DRSI cards. It's not 'seeing' anything from the DRSI cards, however. Seems like an interrupt problem, but not sure how to start attacking the problem.

Of course, I can provide more details on the setup and config if necessary.

Any thoughts, gang?

73 de Dave W05H

80. [BBSSIG:249] STRIPPERS

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 08:41:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412120039.AA263802781@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:249] STRIPPERS
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 8:41

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

81. [BBSSIG:257] Re: Header lengths

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 08:21:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412120123.AA066235391@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:257] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 8:21

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

82. Re: [BBSSIG:286] OS/2 help wanted

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sun, 11 Dec 1994 21:35:25 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941211213335.14003A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Dave, at least you were able to load OS/2! I have it here and can't even get past disk 5. The whole computer freezes and no joy. So no

load so no help.

73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di@acca.nmsu.edu
DOS and Windows some say are bad software, but facts
do not support this. Bill Gates has more than a
Billion dollars!

83. Re: [BBSSIG:289] Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 94 6:39:14 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412121239.AA159431@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sounds like you have some defective disks, maybe. There was a bug in the first mass release of WARP and IBM will replace the disks at no charge if your serial number is among the buggy group.

I can get the whole ball of wax to run under Windows but OS/2 won't 'see' the DRSI cards. Oh well...

73 de Dave

84. RE: [BBSSIG:290] Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 94 10:07:00 PST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EEC9046@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>I can get the whole ball of wax to run under Windows but OS/2 won't
>'see' the DRSI cards. Oh well...

Check the OS/2 online manual... I believe there is a setting called 'IOPL' that should be in your config.sys file. It controls how much access a DOS program has to the hardware. Multitasking operating systems take a dim view of programs accessing the hardware directly, and OS/2 is no exception. I believe that I have heard some discussion on the development of an OS/2 driver for the SCC type cards.

Mike

85. Re: [BBSSIG:291] Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 08:47:34 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941212084531.22991B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 12 Dec 1994, Murphree Michael A wrote:

>
>
> >I can get the whole ball of wax to run under Windows but OS/2 won't
> >'see' the DRSI cards. Oh well...
>
> Check the OS/2 online manual... I believe there is a setting called 'IOPL'
> that should be
> in your config.sys file. It controls how much access a DOS program has to
> the hardware.
> Multitasking operating systems take a dim view of programs accessing the
> hardware
> directly, and OS/2 is no exception. I believe that I have heard some
> discussion on the
> development of an OS/2 driver for the SCC type cards.
>
> Mike
>

Should not need a driver Mike. I have jnos with an attach to my ethernet card with dma and it works just fine from a dos window on the desktop.

73, de karl k5di

86. Re: [BBSSIG:290] Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 08:40:33 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941212083228.22991A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 12 Dec 1994, Dave Wolf wrote:

> Sounds like you have some defective disks, maybe. There was a bug in
> the first mass release of WARP and IBM will replace the disks at no
> charge if your serial number is among the buggy group.

No Dave it's my video card. It has the cirrus logic chip set, like about 1.5 million others, and all of them can not load OS/2. I learned this from the IBM 800 help number 6 months ago. They don't plan to fix the problem...

>
> I can get the whole ball of wax to run under Windows but OS/2 won't
> 'see' the DRSI cards. Oh well...
>
> 73 de Dave
>

So here is some real help Dave. I have run OS/2 on a machine at work and it is very nice! What you want to do is open a dos "window" in the desktop and using the setup book make that window have the autoexec.bat and added config.sys listings you need for aa4re. It should work real fine. I would name the autoexec.bat autoaare.bat and call it from the aa4re window.

The truly nice part of OS/2 is that every dos or OS/2 window is independant of the rest. It can crash and the others will keep truckin.

73, karl k5di

87. RE: [BBSSIG:293] Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 94 14:50:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EECAACD@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

...>>Sounds like you have some defective disks, maybe. There
...>>was a bug in the first mass release of WARP and IBM will
...>>replace the disks at no charge if your serial number is among
...>>the buggy group.

That bug only shows up if you have a file named CONFIG.BAK in your machine's root directory when you begin the OS/2 installation process. Other than that, it should be fine.

...> No, Dave, it's my video card. It has the Cirrus
...>Logic chip set, like about 1.5 million others, and all of
...>them can't load OS/2. I learned this from the IBM 800 help
...>number 6 months ago. They don't plan to fix the problem...

Psstt...don't tell that to my computer--it has a Cirrus Logic 5429 chipset on the SVGA adapter card and IBM OS/2 Warp v3.0 runs as smooth as satin! (Clone 80486SX 25 MHz, AMI BIOS, 16 MB RAM, etc). Runs JNOS swell in a DOS window, talking to my AEA PK-232MBX in KISS mode via a serial port.

...> The truly nice part of OS/2 is that every DOS or
...>OS/2 window is independent of the rest. It can crash and
...>the others will keep truckin.

Yep, it's nice to be able to "dump" a crashed or hung program and have the rest of the stuff running on the machine not even "know" about it!

73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 The World's Foremost Authority
QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrl.org CompuServe 70007,3373
MCI 215-5052 Amprnet ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

88. Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 94 17:38:00 PST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EECF9B9@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> ...>>Sounds like you have some defective disks, maybe. There
> ...>>was a bug in the first mass release of WARP and IBM will
> ...>>replace the disks at no charge if your serial number is among
> ...>>the buggy group.

Not all of the bugs seem to be eradicated in the GA version of WARP. I had problems with my slow but otherwise reliable Toshiba 3301 CD drive during the install of the beta. I finally managed to get the beta to work properly with it, but not with the GA version. I tried both a Future Domain 850 and an Adaptec 1522 interface with the drive and neither would work properly. Only after I connected a Sony drive (from my Mac) to the Adaptec 1522 could I install the GA version. At least they do offer technical support....

The new environment (desktop) is really NICE in this version!

Mike

89. [BBSSIG:255] Re: Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 22:27:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412130042.AA169169378@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:255] Re: Is Mustang Message Illegal ?
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 22:27

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

90. [BBSSIG:256] Re: Header lengths

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 08:06:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412130136.AA281782570@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:256] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 8:06

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

91. [BBSSIG:250] Re: Header lengths

From: genie-postmaster@geis.com
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 94 06:56:00 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412130150.AA010993456@relay2.geis.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Original Msg Id: Not Found
genie-postmaster response to your message

Subject: [BBSSIG:250] Re: Header lengths
System: QUIK-COMM
Date: Thu 8-Dec-94 6:56

Status: 5 Message picked up by receiving system and
delivered to all recipients with NO exceptions.

92. Re: [BBSSIG:298] Re: Header lengths

From: Frank Garofalo <frankg@panix.com>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 23:12:45 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412130412.AA13686@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

CAN SOMEONE STOP THESE GAWD DAMN GENIE-POSTMASTER MESSAGES.
ENOUGH ALREADY !!!!!!!!!!!

--
Frank
frankg@panix.com
[your ad here]

93. Re: geis.com system gone wild (fwd)

From: Robert <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Mon, 12 Dec 1994 22:20:25 -0600 (CST)
To: bbs <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <9412122220.aa28559@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

THIS is the responce I got from postmaster@geis.com
still getting them here by the bucket full.
Robert
Forwarded message:
> From relay2.geis.com!geis.geis.com!gcannon Sun Dec 11 23:08:54 1994
> From: gcannon@geis.geis.com
> Message-Id: <199412120510.AA131169035@relay2.geis.com>
> Date: Mon, 12 Dec 94 04:05:00 UTC
> To: w5robert@blkbox.COM
> Subject: Re: geis.com system gone wild
> X-Geis-Id: 3441510
> X-Geis-From: GCANNON
>
>
>
> My apologies for the flood of error messages from our gateway. In the past
> few days traffic has exceeded our system capacity and we are in the process
> of adding an additional H-P box to compensate. The message does relate a
> true error condition however, it was not worded appropriately. It refers to
> the condition that the incoming message was addressed correctly, however,
> the gateway exceeded storage and the message did not get into the message
> database or was deleted prior to the message being converted to and relayed
> to our internal system. We hope to have the problem resolved shortly.
>
> Regards,
> Gary
>
> G=gary;S=cannon;OU1=geis;O=quikcomm;A=mark400;C=us
> gcannon@geis.geis.com
> 1.201.299.2042
>
> also:
> postmaster@geis.com
> and:
> postmaster@geis.geis.com
>
>

94. Re: [BBSSIG:300] Re: geis.com system gone wild (fwd)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 02:26:31 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412130826.CAA07765@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Guys - chill out a little. Both of the users on that system have been
removed and if you'll note the messages that are getting returned are
several days old -- they will go away eventually as the geis system
processes these old messages.

My listserv admin is gone on vacation, so we are unable to get access to the
listserv to add additional filters.

Can't be that ard to delete these messages...I can understand concern for
those that are paying per message though and we are working on it.

Cheers - Greg

According to Robert:

```
>
> This is the response I got from postmaster@geis.com
> still getting them here by the bucket full.
> Robert
> Forwarded message:
> > From: relay2.geis.com!geis.geis.com!gcannon Sun Dec 11 23:08:54 1994
> > From: gcannon@geis.geis.com
> > Message-Id: <199412120510.AA131169035@relay2.geis.com>
> > Date: Mon, 12 Dec 94 04:05:00 UTC
> > To: w5robert@blkbox.COM
> > Subject: Re: geis.com system gone wild
> > X-Geis-Id: 3441510
> > X-Geis-From: GCANNON
> >
> >
> > My apologies for the flood of error messages from our gateway. In the past
> > few days traffic has exceeded our system capacity and we are in the process
> > of adding an additional H-P box to compensate. The message does relate a
> > true error condition however, it was not worded appropriately. It refers to
> > the condition that the incoming message was addressed correctly, however,
> > the gateway exceeded storage and the message did not get into the message
> > database or was deleted prior to the message being converted to and relayed
> > to our internal system. We hope to have the problem resolved shortly.
> >
> > Regards,
> > Gary
> >
> > G=gary;S=cannon;OU1=geis;O=quikcomm;A=mark400;C=us
> > gcannon@geis.geis.com
> > 1.201.299.2042
> >
> > also:
> > postmaster@geis.com
> > and:
> > postmaster@geis.geis.com
> >
> >
> >
```

95. Re: [BBSSIG:299] Re: Header lengths

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 09:20:17 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412131520.AA16834@tomcat1.tbe.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
> CAN SOMEONE STOP THESE GAWD DAMN GENIE-POSTMASTER MESSAGES.
> ENOUGH ALREADY !!!!!!!!!!!
```

Is it considered polite to mark them "RETURN TO SENDER" and ship 'em back?
If we all did this, would they get the message?

96. Re: [BBSSIG:294] Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 11:27:03 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941213112205.3608B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 12 Dec 1994, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:

```
>
> ...>>Sounds like you have some defective disks, maybe. There
> ...>>was a bug in the first mass release of WARP and IBM will
> ...>>replace the disks at no charge if your serial number is among
> ...>>the buggy group.
>
> That bug only shows up if you have a file named CONFIG.BAK in your
> machine's root directory when you begin the OS/2 installation process.
> Other than that, it should be fine.
>
> ...> No, Dave, it's my video card. It has the Cirrus
> ...>Logic chip set, like about 1.5 million others, and all of
> ...>them can't load OS/2. I learned this from the IBM 800 help
> ...>number 6 months ago. They don't plan to fix the problem...
>
```

```
> Psstt...don't tell that to my computer--it has a Cirrus Logic 5429 chipset
> on the SVGA adapter card and IBM OS/2 Warp v3.0 runs as smooth as satin!
> (Clone 80486SX 25 MHz, AMI BIOS, 16 MB RAM, etc). Runs JNOS swell in a DOS
> window, talking to my AEA PK-232MBX in KISS mode via a serial port.
```

Well Brian tell me more. I am about to GIVE away my OS/2 since it will not load. What do you know that IBM does not? My computer is an IBM made 486-66 with 16 meg ram and 540 meg hd. Same video card.

-karl k5di

97. Re: [BBSSIG:302] Re: Header lengths

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 1994 14:59:42 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199412132059.OAA00231@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The messages are being generated by a automated system. The filter for our system was reset for this message at 10am today...so it should stop. Thanks to Lee for taking time out of his vacation and heading back to work to fix this.

Cheers - Greg

According to David Kelly:

```
>
> > CAN SOMEONE STOP THESE GAWD DAMN GENIE-POSTMASTER MESSAGES.
> > ENOUGH ALREADY !!!!!!!!!!!
>
> Is it considered polite to mark them "RETURN TO SENDER" and ship 'em back?
> If we all did this, would they get the message?
>
>
```

98. Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 18:25:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EEE2EAD@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

...>>That bug only shows up if you have a file named
...>>CONFIG.BAK in your machine's root directory when you begin
...> the OS/2 installation process. Other than that, it should be fine.

...>> ...> No, it's my video card. It has the Cirrus Logic chip
...>> ...> set, like about 1.5 million others, and all of them can't load
...>> ...> OS/2. I learned this from the IBM 800 help number 6 months
...>> ...> ago. They don't plan to fix the problem...

...>>Psstt...don't tell that to my computer--it has a Cirrus
...>>Logic 5429 chipset on the SVGA adapter card and IBM OS/2
...>>Warp v3.0 runs as smooth as satin! (Clone 80486SX 25 MHz, AMI
...>>BIOS, 16 MB RAM, etc). Runs JNOS swell in a DOS window, talking
...>>to my AEA PK-232MBX in KISS mode via a serial port.

...> Brian tell me more. I am about to GIVE away my OS/2
...>since it won't load. What do you know that IBM doesn't? My
...>computer is an IBM-made 486-66 with 16 meg ram and 540 meg
...>hd. Same video card.

Cheesh, Karl, do you think I'm smart or something? Heck, I just slapped the disks in and started 'em chugging away. The only problem I did have--and I honestly have no clue why this is so--is that I had to use Cirrus Logic's software utility CLMODE to "set" the video card's VGA Mode, and I found out that running the OS/2 Warp driver for the Cirrus Logic chip set looks horrible, but the "generic" IBM SVGA drivers work fine. I don't know what's screwy, the hardware, the drivers (IBM's or Cirrus Logic's) or OS/2...

I'll tell you one thing: If I had some \$\$ to spend, I'd ditch the Cirrus Logic card and buy a better one in an instant, *way* before I'd switch from OS/2 Warp! Now there's an OS for those of us who need to run Windows and DOS applications. (Sorry, Unix fans, but I don't have the iron or the bux to run any flavor of Unix with some non-broken emulator to do serious day-to-day Windows/DOS stuff.)

Karl, sell your video card to some DOS-Windows user and grab a card with the Tseng 32S chip (or a card from ATI or S3). Then try OS/2 Warp and see

wotcha thinline.

JNOS110G and MFNOS run nicely in a DOS window on my PC, weeks without reboots, etc. Kind of suck up some CPU speed, though, but that's the price we pay until someone figgers out how to (A) Write a terrific native 32-bit multithreaded OS/2 version of NOS (Walt Corey took a promising stab at this a couple of years ago, but it appears he must be too busy with other things to churn out a new, improved model); or (B) Write a world-class AX.25/async device driver that can talk "TNC Talk" (and fulfills the FCC rules, etc) and lets you just slap OS/2 Warp's built-in TCP/IP support on the job. <sigh> In my next life, I'll learn computer programming...

GL, OM!

73 de BB

***** NOT CONNECTED WITH IBM IN ANY WAY *****

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- - - - -
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99. RE: [BBSSIG:295] Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 18:28:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EEE2EAF@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

...>Not all of the bugs seem to be eradicated in the GA version
...>of WARP. I had problems with my slow but otherwise reliable
...>Toshiba 3301 CD drive during the install of the beta. I
...>finally managed to get the beta to work properly with it,
...>but not with the GA version. I tried a Future Domain 850
...>and an Adaptec 1522 interface with the drive and neither
...>would work properly. Only after I connected a Sony drive
...>(from my Mac) to the Adaptec 1522 could I install the GA
...>version. At least they do offer technical support....
...>
...>The new environment (desktop) is really NICE in this version!

Yep, I'm VERY pleased and satisfied with OS/2 Warp v3.0. I had high expectations before I saw it, and it was at least what I hoped for and more. Now if I had a faster CPU, better video card, bigger monitor....

73 de BB

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100. RE: [BBSSIG:255] Re: Is Mustang Message Illegal ?

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 18:43:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EEE3306@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

...>On Tue, 6 Dec 1994, Roy E Gould wrote:
...>
...>>I've recently been part of producing a flurry of messages
...>>to me saying that a message posted on a PBBS I'm
...>>the SysOp of, was illegal. I've read a portion of
...>>your position paper on appropriate PBBS bulletins with
...>>interest as it indicates that perhaps you believe that
...>>the CAR FOR SALE message may not be illegal, but only
...>>inappropriate for Amateur Radio. Your position paper
...>>didn't mention CAR, but a camping tent.

Excuse me, but instead of someone's position paper, you'd do yourself a service to open your copy of the FCC Rulebook. If you look under Part 97.113(a)(3), it specifically states that the only information you can transmit with regard to offering products for sale is that which pertains to notifying "other amateur operators of the availability for sale or trade of apparatus normally used in an amateur station, provided that such activity is not conducted on a regular basis."

Personally, I'd say a radio, antenna, TNC or even a computer widget would be okay, but a car is clearly stretching things a bit, unless it's primarily an amateur emergency communication vehicle and not useful for much else.

...>How does someone get to be SysOp without knowing what is legal?

Well, all you do is take a simple written test, Gary; it's not like you have to go to college or fall on a live hand grenade first! Any schnook with a ham ticket can slap up a PBBS! (Nothing personal, Roy!) 8-)

--73 de BB

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101. RE: No logs required

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 18:54:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EEE3544@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

...>>I don't pretend to be a lawyer, but I think that the record provided by the

...>>R:Lines is clearly a log. I know that the FCC requires logs of our amateur

...>>station to be preserved for a year, yes, they've markedly reduced what we're

...>>required to log, but we still must preserve it. Because I'm not a lawyer, I

...>>only communicate my concerns. Can someone knowledgeable in the law comment

...>>further?

...>The only messages you have any responsibility for are

...>those generated at your PBBS. Generating a log for every

...>message passing thru your PBBS would be wasteful. Therefore

...>R: lines as a logging mechanism are useless, since they are

...>only apply when a message is forwarded. Logging required

...>for station contacts where automatic forwarding is not allowed would

...>be a different issue.

...>

...>The PBBS software I'm using keeps logs separately from messages.

...>It can also archive messages as required. It would be impossible to

...>save all messages received thru the PBBS for any substantial length time

...>due to space limitations. (short of having a WORM drive).

...>

...>The station log requirements have substantially changed

...>over the years, does anyone have recent information on what

...>if any, requirement exists?

FCC Rules Part 97 (The Amateur Radio Service) doesn't say a peep about any amateur having to keep any logs any more. Hasn't for many years. But if you *want* to keep a log for fun, for debugging or to use as possible evidence in case the FCC ever decides to cite you for something, that's your business. Might not be a horribly bad idea, but it sure as heck is NOT required at all.

--73 de BB

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102. RE: [BBSSIG:271] Re: Header lengths

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Tue, 13 Dec 94 19:07:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EEE37FD@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

...>This thread should become 'for sale content' methinks ;-)!

Good point.

...>Let me tell you what many of us have done in Texas--using
...>4RE's 'tell before' function, when some posts a 'for sale'
...>bulletin, a short message comes up advising the bbs policy
...>on such. Mine include a note that the bull should include a
...>mailing address or phone number in that on-air negotiation is a
...>rules violation....

What rules? Yours or the FCC's? Because the FCC specifically does NOT state that mentioning prices or negotiating is forbidden. It only explains broadly the circumstances under which there's an exception to the "no selling over the air" rule, which is that such a transmission may notify other amateurs of the availability for sale or trade of apparatus used in an amateur station. Never says a word about price, negotiating, etc. Beyond the literal terminology, you can certainly interpret the FCC's *intent* in any manner you personally choose, and if you prefer to play it conservatively, that's fine. But the general rule of thumb has always been that (mostly) "If the rules don't forbid it or mention it, it's probably okay." The FCC doesn't particularly want to tell anyone specifically what they can or can't do on the air (in Amateur Radio or any other service).

And as far as content goes, the FCC makes no real distinction between what can be transmitted via packet vs voice, CW, etc. Unfortunately, because of it's non-real-time nature, it's slightly more "anonymous" and comfortably to blast out questionable comments on packet--and because packet messages don't vanish as quickly as spoken words or dits and dahs, them nasty ol' messages kinda hang around longer for us hams to peep at and grind our teeth over.

Kinda like the difference between what some people will type at ya on e-mail vs what tone they'd take if they were talking with you in person or on the phone.

--73 de BB

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103. RE: [BBSSIG:305] Re: OS/2 help wanted

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Wed, 14 Dec 94 08:32:00 PST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2EEF1CA2@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> JNOS110G and MFNOS run nicely in a DOS window on my PC, weeks without
>reboots, etc. Kind of suck up some CPU speed, though, but that's the price
>we pay until someone figgers out how to (A) Write a terrific native 32-bit

You could fix this in the beta and previous versions by setting
IDLE_SENSITIVITY
in the low teens. I haven't checked to see if the GA version has this fixed
yet...
(Too busy trying to get all this other stuff to install!)

Mike

104. Software Problem?

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 14 Dec 1994 09:30:53 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Cc: Sig Networking <netsig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941214092802.20373B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have not received a single tapr SIG message for over 24 hours.
Has anyone else this problem? I have done nothing to cause this problem
to occur. I did get a cryptic e-mail about something being postponed, but
nothing was explained...

73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di@acca.nmsu.edu
DOS and Windows some say are bad software, but facts
do not support this. Bill Gates has more than a
Billion dollars!

105. 4RE Software

From: kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org
Date: Thu, 15 Dec 94 17:17:43 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <19433@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello Where Can I find the Latest DOCS\PROGRAM for the AA4RE BBS Program
I Have 2.11 and would like to use the Latest. I run JN05 ON Air
and 4RE for personal or to set someone up as a BBS

4RE has been one of the Best Ive used (Exclud. JN05) compared to MSYS or FBB
73 and thanks for assistance

Amprnet: KB2HJC@NX2B.AMPR.ORG AX.25: KB2HJC@WA2NDV.NY.USA.NOAM
Email: COMPUSERVE 75550,130 Internet: 75550.130@compuserve.com
Voice: 145.110 Rpt. PL 3B Phone: 609-886-8792
TCP/IP-Netrom: [44.65.32.24] IPHJC:KB2HJC-8

106. Re: [BBSSIG:312] 4RE Software

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sat, 17 Dec 94 6:39:27 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412171239.AA115290@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

There are numerous places to get 4RE.

The most recent final version release is available from the TAPR office-
call them at (817) 383-0000 for information. It is also avail on-line
from the TAPR software database (I'm reasonably sure).

>From your signature I see that you have CompuServe-- the latest beta
release is available on Hamnet, library 9. Just saw it there last
nite... I have been running the beta for several months with good
result, so can personally recommend it.

73 de Dave W05H

107. Not receiving but..

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 17 Dec 1994 13:36:26 -0700 (MST)
To: Sig Networking <netsig@tapr.org>
Cc: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941217133257.17278A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

For some reason tapr has seen fit to stop sending me the SIG's I
have enjoyed this year, but no problem. It's Christmas Time and what me
worry? Never happen!

		Merry Christmas	
		and	
		Happy New Year	*
			/v\
			/V\
			/VVV\
			VVVV
			/VVVV\
PEACE	□ □	From: Karl K5DI	
	□ □	and Family	
	#####	in	
	/ o o \	□□□□ Las Cruces, NM	
	(v)		
□	\ --- /		

I have already looked thru the OAK and Simtel sites.
Very strange as this was a hot topic a few years ago.
I wonder if there is anything replacing it other than the usual
Packet BBS software? (I run F6FBB here)
73 - Ron
velaic@velaic.pe.can.noam

112. FBB Blues

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 21 Dec 1994 07:37:31 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941221072159.9236A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am running the f6fbb bbs and was very pleased when I installed the version 5.15C and found the Tiny Editor was being used as a full screen editor when the keyboard sysop requested to write mail on the bbs. This feature allows commenting and all the nice features of pine and elm we learned to love on the internet.

Last week we were experimenting with forwarding to jnos as a bbs. The jnos sysop sent me some "interesting" messages that resulted in a flurry of "ping-pong" and other problems. I took one of his messages and commented on it in the nice Tiny editor and all seemed to be fine.

But that was the last I ever saw of the nice Tiny editor when sending messages. Now when I send a message I get the same screen a user gets which is a single line editor. If I want to send a reply all it does is capture the address and title.

If anyone know how to turn on that feature again please pass the info along. But the Alt-f6 thing doesn't work. When I use that and turn on the feature it puts me in a mode that I cannot exit with anything but a alt-x or ctrl-c (by the way ctrl-c is an undocumented disaster key; If your just looking at your bbs and for some reason hit ctrl-c the bbs will exit dos and you will be looking at the dos prompt wondering what happend!) It's a very irritating problem...

73, karl k5di

113. Re: [BBSSIG:317] RE: 4RE Software

From: laborde@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
Date: Wed, 21 Dec 94 08:45:16 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412211645.AB25808@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>The current version of AA4RE software (2.1R) may be gotten by anonymous
>ftp from kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov... Look for it in the /pub/hamradio/AA4RE
>directory... There are four separate files: bb21rc.zip, bb21rl.zip,
>bb21rn.zip, and bb21rp.zip... I am running 2.1R in conjunction with g8bpq
>version 4.08 and a drsi pcpa-1 card... It runs very smoothly...
>
>73, Ed, K1BYV/AAR1AA

Ed,

I am wondering if you are running any servers on your REBBS? We run 2.1R at JPL but without any servers. I am thinking of adding some...

-Greg

--

Gregory R. LaBorde - KD6MSM	Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
Jet Propulsion Laboratory	AMPRNet : kd6msm@jpl-gw.w6vio.ampr.org
Systems Engineering - Galileo OET	Packet : KD6MSM@W6VIO.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
M/S 264-805 4800 Oak Grove Drive	Phone : (818) 393-1107
Pasadena, CA 91109	

114. RE: [BBSSIG:320] RE: 4RE Software

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 21 Dec 1994 15:36:15 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <941221153615.fbb3@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Greg...

No, I am not running any servers because I have no need. My bbs is in Army MARS service. There are, however, a number of servers for REBBS on file on kilroy. Maybe I may try some of them in the future. You might want to check with Roy for references re: those running servers.

73, Ed

115. Re: [BBSSIG:319] FBB Blues

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 22 Dec 1994 07:24:35 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941222072053.8268B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 21 Dec 1994, Klarsen wrote:

>
> I am running the f6fbb bbs and was very pleased when I installed
> the version 5.15C and found the Tiny Editor was being used as a full
> screen editor when the keyboard sysop requested to write mail on the bbs.
> This feature allows commenting and all the nice features of pine and elm
> we learned to love on the internet.
>
> Last week we were experimenting with forwarding to jnos as a bbs.
> The jnos sysop sent me some "interesting" messages that resulted in a
> flurry of "ping-pong" and other problems. I took one of his messages and
> commented on it in the nice Tiny editor and all seemed to be fine.
>
> But that was the last I ever saw of the nice Tiny editor when
> sending messages. Now when I send a message I get the same screen a user
> gets which is a single line editor. If I want to send a reply all it does
> is capture the address and title.
>
> If anyone know how to turn on that feature again please pass the
> info along. But the Alt-f6 thing doesn't work. When I use that and turn
> on the feature it puts me in a mode that I cannot exit with anything but
> a alt-x or ctrl-c (by the way ctrl-c is an undocumented disaster key; If
> your just looking at your bbs and for some reason hit ctrl-c the bbs will
> exit dos and you will be looking at the dos prompt wondering what
> happend!) It's a very irritating problem...
>
> 73, karl k5di
>
>
>

Last night I bit the bullet and did a del init.srv and started
over. It appears that something had corrupted this file because when I
brought up FBB again the Tiny editor was working again! I need to make a
few changes but it looks like everything works again.

73, de karl k5di

116. [BBSSIG:321] RE: 4RE Software

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Thu, 22 Dec 94 23:07:04 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rL461-0001POC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ref: Your note of Wed, 21 Dec 94 15:01 CST

I run a number of the W1NPR REBBS servers here. They all work fine.

Roy

117. Bad Amsat bulletins

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Sat, 24 Dec 1994 14:24:42 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412241824.AA08524@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

We have just received a load of bad AMSAT bulletins and I wonder if anyone
is getting them as well. They seem to be coming from Oceania but I wonder
if a header stripper is cuasing the problem too?
here's a sample:

>From : MAGLIA
 To : ANS
 Type/status : BK
 Date/time : 24-Dec 14:05
 BID (MID) : 30261_VK4WAN
 Message # : 66489
 Title : * SpaceNews 19-Dec-94 *
 R:941224/1740Z @:VE9VT.NB.CAN.NA #:27134 [Burton, NB] FBB5.15c \$:30261_VK4WAN
 R:941224/1727Z @:VE1BBS.NS.CAN.NA #:8602 [YHZ] FBB5.15b \$:30261_VK4WAN
 R:941224/1630Z @:KJ4LQ.#TIDE.VA.U.S.A.NOAM #:21740 Chesapeake Z:23320
 R:941222/0501Z @:WD4MIZ.VA.U.S.A.NOAM [VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.] #:84166 Z:23452 FBB5.
 R:941221/2342Z @:WA4TVS.VA.U.S.A.NOAM #:40347 [Parksley] FBB5.15c \$:30261_VK4WAN
 R:941221/2030Z @:N3HVI.MD.U.S.A.NOAM #:26172 [Pocomoke City] FBB5.15c
 R:941221/1438Z @:NK3T.MD.U.S.A.NOAM #:7211 [Snow Hill] FBB5.15c \$:30261_VK4WAN
 R:941220/1644Z @:WA7NTF.#WWA.WA.U.S.A.NOAM #:46393 [TELINK] #:46393
 R:941220/1112Z @:KB7CNN.#WWA.WA.U.S.A.NOAM #:10224 [N.W.GATEWAY] \$:30261_VK4WAN
 R:941220/1102 12561@WA7SJD.#WWA.WA.U.S.A.NOAM B:30261_VK4WAN
 R:941220/1050 28441@W0RLI.OR.U.S.A.NOAM
 R:941219/1857 29291@N7TRY.OR.U.S.A.NOAM
 R:941219/0924 29578@N7DXT.#EUGEN.OR.U.S.A.NA
 R:941219/0859 30358@WB7VMS.#MURPH.OR.U.S.A.NOAM
 R:941219/0858 31115@WB7AWL.#SWOR.OR.U.S.A.NOAM
 R:941219/0837 23860@KA6EYH.#NOCAL.CA.U.S.A.NOAM
 R:941219/0820 27357@WB0TAX.#NOCAL.CA.U.S.A.NOAM
 R:941219/0724 44846@N5UXT.LA.U.S.A.NA
 R:941219/0300 28046@F6CNB.#SETX.TX.U.S.A.NOAM
 R:941218/2346 57579@VK3BBS.#MEL.VIC.AUS.OC
 R:941219/1353 10515@VK3KSK.#MEL.VIC.AUS.OC
 R:941218/1522 50729@VK3KSD.#MEL.VIC.AUS.OC
 R:941216/0843 35770@VK4DGQ.BNE.QLD.AUS.OC
 R:941216/0608 1579@VK4WAN.QLD.AUS.OC

SB NEWS @ AMSAT \$SPC1219
 * SpaceNews 19-Dec-94 *

BID: \$SPC1219

---[deleted by me]
 73 - Ron
 velaic@velaic.pe.can.noam

118. Windows & FBB

From: daniel.meredith@aznetig.stat.com (Daniel Meredith)
 Date: Mon, 26 Dec 1994 06:27:54 GMT
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <941225232917172@aznetig.stat.com>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

Yep, I'm about to ask about that horrible thing called WINDOZE!

Unfortunately I have no other choice than to bring up Windows and run FBB under it. I've run into a problem trying to make BPQ work properly with it however.

I load BPQ outside of Windows for efficiency reasons. I have 5 radio ports, one of the ports utilizes a COMM port. Every time I load windows after running BPQCODE, the COMM port that BPQ is talking to is taken away by Windows. I am running BPQKISS in POLLED mode so I can see the very second that Windows takes the COMM port away. Now I can quit windows and it still does not return. I have to totally re-boot the machine to make the COMM port active again. I have tried multiple different changes and can not make it behave, this includes trying other COMM ports.

Now when I load BPQCODE Inside of the WINDOW under WINDOWS with APPEL.BAT it works great UNTIL I switch away from the window. I have BACKGROUND and FOREGROUND set to 100 for attention to the program. When I switch away the Polling drops to nill and my DRSI CARDS have extremely long delayed TXDELAY, and the BBS functions incredibly slow. The very second I switch back to the FOREGROUND the program takes right off. Note, I am NOT running anything else at the time, just switching back to MAIN.

System: 486-66Dx2 with 20Megs memory.

Can anyone help here? Am I simply missing something????

Help!

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563 Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563

List Owner: F6fbb-List@AzNetIG.Stat.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

119. TAPR Listserv

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Thu, 29 Dec 1994 21:55:55 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing), netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing),
aprssig@tapr.org, tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing),
tapr-board@tapr.org (TAPR Board)
Message-ID: <199412300355.VAA17396@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi TAPR Internet folks.

As you may have noticed, your incoming e-mail box has been filled up with a batch of mail from the TAPR info server.

During the Xmas holidays and system hosed up and with our sysop gone out of town it has just now been corrected.

Thanks for the many messages I received letting us know we had a problem.

Shortly we will be moving to our final home and more than one person will have access to the system, which should allow quicker response to these type of problems when Lee is unavailable.

I would like to thank Lee, N5LYT for his terrific support on the system. Without his help to date, the TAPR info server would not be as well managed as it is currently.

Happy New Years everyone.

Greg

120. COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Fri, 30 Dec 1994 01:05:39 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199412300705.BAA02773@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

This just posted on the FCCREG Committee TAPR group by Dewayne Hendricks, WA8DZP. I thought some of the folks on the BBSSIG might be interested.

Cheers - Greg

Report No. DC-2700
ACTION IN DOCKET CASE
December 29, 1994

COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER CONCERNING
MESSAGE FORWARDING SYSTEMS IN THE AMATEUR SERVICE
(PR DOCKET NO. 93-85)

The Commission has denied Phil Karn reconsideration of its decision concerning message forwarding systems in the Amateur Service. Karn sought reconsideration of the Commission's decision that requires the licensee of the forwarding station to either authenticate the identity of the station from which it accepts communications on behalf of the system, or accept accountability for the content of the message.

On March 30, 1994, the FCC adopted an Order which provided that in contemporary message forwarding systems, the control operators of intermediate forwarding stations, other than the first forwarding station, would not be held accountable when their stations retransmitted improper communications inadvertently. The purpose of the Order was to relax the amateur service rules to enable these systems to operate at high speed while retaining the minimum safeguards necessary to prevent misuse.

Denying reconsideration, the Commission said the Order did not address, nor was it intended to address, what accommodations should be made for message forwarding systems that may be developed in the future. This issue appeared to be the main concern of Karn's request for reconsideration. The Commission said that if the present accommodation becomes unworkable in a system using a different architecture, the managers of that system can request necessary rule changes at the appropriate time.

Action by the Commission December 23, 1994, by Memorandum Opinion and Order (FCC 94-344). Chairman Hundt, Commissioners Quello, Barrett, Ness, and Chong.

News Media contact: Patricia A. Chew at (202) 418-0500.
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau contact: William T. Cross at (202) 418-0680.

121. Re: [BBSSIG:325] Windows & FBB

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 30 Dec 1994 02:54:22 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941230023114.23278A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 29 Dec 1994, Daniel Meredith wrote:

> Hi All,
> Yep, I'm about to ask about that horrible thing called WINDOZE!

Wash your mouth out Dan. Windows is sweet.

>
> Unfortunately I have no other choice than to bring up Windows and run
> FBB under it. I've run into a problem trying to make BPQ work properly
> with it however.
>
> I load BPQ outside of Windows for efficiency reasons. I have 5 radio
> ports, one of the ports utilizes a COMM port. Every time I load
> windows after running BPQCODE, the COMM port that BPQ is talking to is
> taken away by Windows. I am running BPQKISS in POLLED mode so I can

That is normal and let me say here that I have run FBB in windows for over 2 years and have solved all the problems you are are having. So here goes...

1. Be sure to run mem manager so bpq is run in upper memory. Yes start bpq before loading windows.

2. When windows is up go to the "control panel" window and then open "386???" window. There in the first window in the upper left hand side you will see com ports listed. Go to the com port you are using with bpq and set it to "never warm". Pine is in a bad mood and screwing up this response Dan. Anyway make the dam thing never warm and that will fix your com problem.

> see the very second that Windows takes the COMM port away. Now I can
> quit windows and it still does not return. I have to totally re-boot
> the machine to make the COMM port active again. I have tried multiple
> different changes and can not make it behave, this includes trying other
> COMM ports.
>
> Now when I load BPQCODE Inside of the WINDOW under WINDOWS with
> APPEL.BAT it works great UNTIL I switch away from the window. I have
> BACKGROUND and FOREGROUND set to 100 for attention to the program.
> When I switch away the Polling drops to nill and my DRSI CARDS have
> extremely long delayed TXDELAY, and the BBS functions incredibly slow.

> The very second I switch back to the FOREGROUND the program takes right
> off. Note, I am NOT running anything else at the time, just switching
> back to MAIN.
>
> System: 486-66Dx2 with 20Megs memory.
>

Well the slow problem sounds like your having a screen write
problem or your sample rate between windows has been set too small. I lie
and tell fbb I have a CGA monitor and it makes a simple screen. I suggest
you read the stuff on tuning up dos and windows Dan. There are a lot of
things I have done and at this time as I type this message FBB is running
in it's window, jnos110H is in it's window and the telephone bbs was
turned off so I can use that com port to the internet.

You will get it working slick Dan if you keep working on it, and
don't expect too much. It takes time.

>
> Can anyone help here? Am I simply missing something????
>

> Help!
>

> Dan
>

```

> -----          \-----/          -----
>                   Arizona Network Intertie Group
>                   "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"
>
> Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP                Voice: +1-602-489-7384
> P.O. Box 44563                            Fax : +1-602-956-2566
> Phoenix, Arizona                        BBS : +1-602-912-0225
>      85064-4563
>
> List Owner: F6fbb-List@AzNetIG.Stat.Com
> Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator
>

```

```

*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
* * * * *
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
* * * * *
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
* * * * *
*****

```

122. Re: [BBSSIG:327] COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION

From: srbible@cs.nps.navy.mil (Steven R. Bible)
Date: Fri, 30 Dec 1994 09:31:13 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9412301732.AA26980@taurus.cs.nps.navy.mil>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>This just posted on the FCCREG Committee TAPR group by Dewayne Hendricks,
>WA8DZP. I thought some of the folks on the BBSSIG might be interested.

>Cheers - Greg
>

>---
>

> Report No. DC-2700
> ACTION IN DOCKET CASE
> December 29, 1994
>

> COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER CONCERNING
> MESSAGE FORWARDING SYSTEMS IN THE AMATEUR SERVICE
> (PR DOCKET NO. 93-85)
>

[deleted]

> Denying reconsideration, the Commission said the Order did not
>address, nor was it intended to address, what accommodations
>should be made for message forwarding systems that may be

>developed in the future. This issue appeared to be the main
>concern of Karn's request for reconsideration. The Commission
>said that if the present accommodation becomes unworkable in a
>system using a different architecture, the manages of that
>system can request necessary rule changes at the appropriate
>time.

This has the appearance of a bad precedence. In trying to relax the rules so that amateurs may experiment and not get bogged down by future technology, the FCC has basically said "if in the future the rules are too restrictive, then we'll change them."

Technology has already surpassed the present rules and regulations. The rules are already too restrictive for experimentation. Why can't the FCC see this? I am of the mind that if the rules don't fit change them, but it seems that the FCC wants proof before they decide to change them.

Steve, N7HPR

srbible@cs.nps.navy.mil
Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943

123. More on KA9Q Petition for Reconsideration (fwd)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Fri, 30 Dec 1994 12:50:11 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199412301850.MAA06840@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

This also from Dewayne Hendricks from the TAPR FCCREG Committee.
This was the actual PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION that Phil submitted earlier in the year.

Cheers - Greg

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington D.C. 20554

)
)
In the Matter of)
) PR Docket No. 93-85
Amendment of Part 97 of the)
Commission's Rules Concerning)
Message Forwarding Systems in)
the Amateur Service.)

PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Although the Commission's ruling is a welcome improvement over the previous state of affairs in which every station in a network of automatic message forwarders was held accountable for message content, it is nonetheless flawed and should be amended.

In particular, the requirement that the "first forwarding station" either authenticate the identity of the originating station or take responsibility for message content is unworkable. The Commission has implicitly assumed a specific architecture for the message forwarding system that is rapidly being overtaken by new systems that render the concept of "first forwarding station" largely meaningless.

The present message forwarding network consists predominantly of "packet bulletin board systems" accessed interactively by end users with relatively simple stations. Many of these user stations are either wholly non-computerized (e.g., a "dumb terminal" connected directly to a Terminal Node Controller, or TNC) or use personal computers merely to emulate such a function.

Although this may indeed be the prevalent practice today, the increasing availability of substantial computer power to end users is causing the amateur packet radio network to evolve rapidly toward more capability at the user stations, with less in the network itself.

This closely mirrors similar trends in non-amateur computer networks, particularly the Internet.

The Commission apparently did not consider these issues in its decision, hence the need for this petition for reconsideration.

Two examples make this clear: the rise of "personal BBSes" and the amateur TCP/IP network (TCP and IP are the core protocols of the Internet).

The personal BBS is just like a multi-user BBS, except that it is operated by and on behalf of only a single local user. In other words, the user and sysop are one and the same. Among the many advantages of the personal BBS is the immediate accessibility to the local user of messages previously received automatically by the BBS, as opposed to having to read them in real time across a slow and often congested packet channel.

Such a personal BBS, however, looks like any other BBS to the rest of the network; the other nodes in the network will relay its traffic just as if it were a "regular" BBS. Yet the Commission's ruling and its definition of "first forwarding station" appears to require every forwarding BBS in the network to treat such personal BBSes with special scrutiny that isn't required for other BBSes that simply forward traffic from other users. Indeed, the new rule seems to require that messages from the sysop on even a multi-user BBS be treated differently from messages from other users on that system.

Furthermore, consider the case where a personal BBS (or an end user with a "dumb terminal", for that matter) connects to another BBS via a digipeater, a low-level device that simply relays physical packets. This digipeater would apparently become the "first forwarding system" and would therefore have to take responsibility for the content of the traffic it relays, even though it would not have to do so for traffic already relayed by another digipeater or BBS.

This is clearly unworkable.

The TCP/IP network shows even more clearly the trend toward removing higher-level functions from the network itself and pushing them toward the "edges" of the network. In a TCP/IP network, every user system provides functions analogous to the BBS, only much more sophisticated. Besides conventional BBS functions, these systems often provide file repositories and remote access to computing facilities such as UNIX systems. Many more sophisticated applications, borrowed from the Internet as a whole, are also appearing: graphical user interfaces, powerful resource search and query tools, and so on.

However, the lower level functions in the TCP/IP protocol suite performed at intermediate systems are deliberately very simple; indeed, an IP router (packet switch) is conceptually similar to (and almost as simple as) the digipeater. It is important to understand that in a TCP/IP network, all of the nodes between two end user stations (e.g., a user and a server node) are these low-level IP packet routers, and the end-to-end communications they support are real-time in nature. Furthermore, the protocols allow consecutive packets between the same end points to travel through different links and routers; the only reliable place to monitor the traffic between any pair of end points is at the end points themselves. Real-time auditing and approval of each packet is simply not practical.

However, the wording of this present Order implies that the control operator of the first IP router forwarding traffic from an end user must either authenticate that user or take responsibility for the end user's traffic, even though the same router could confidently carry traffic that had already been forwarded by another router. This discrimination is wholly impractical and unacceptable; it may even be impossible.

Ideally, the Commission ought to abandon all references to the "first forwarding station" and place all responsibility for message content on the originating station, which can be clearly defined as the station that first transmits the message on amateur channels. Any amateur station that relays or forwards traffic already transmitted and received on amateur frequencies, be it a repeater, digipeater, BBS, IP packet router or anything else, would not be held accountable for the content of the communication.

As a possible alternative, I would be satisfied with a Commission

interpretation of its ruling holding that the distinction between the "originating station" and "first forwarding station" applies only in the special case of a high level intermediate system such as a public BBS that speaks to "dumb terminals" on the user side and speaks BBS network protocols to the rest of the network.

In the case of an end user system that speaks the network protocols directly (be they the BBS message forwarding protocols, TCP/IP or anything else) the originating station and the first forwarding station should be considered the same entity. Which in fact they are, since the originating station uses the same forwarding protocols as the rest of the network.

I am gratified that the Commission has seen fit to grant partial relief to the rules that have so severely burdened the development of packet radio. However, I am concerned that the changes do not go nearly far enough, and I urge the Commission to reconsider its decision.

I understand that the Commission strongly prefers to establish principles of broad applicability that do not have to be constantly revisited as amateur technology and practice evolve. However, this ruling has clearly violated that principle by assuming a specific architecture for the amateur packet radio network that does not accommodate even near term future trends. I urge the Commission to rectify its oversight so that it does not have to revisit this issue again in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Karn, KA9Q

124. Re: [BBSSIG:327] COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION

From: Stu Mitchell <stu@lab.r1.fws.gov>
Date: Sat, 31 Dec 1994 04:37:00 +0000 (GMT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.90.941231043302.22532B-100000@ash.lab.r1.fws.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 30 Dec 1994, Greg Jones wrote:

> Report No. DC-2700
> ACTION IN DOCKET CASE
> December 29, 1994
>
> COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER CONCERNING
> MESSAGE FORWARDING SYSTEMS IN THE AMATEUR SERVICE
> (PR DOCKET NO. 93-85)
>
> The Commission has denied Phil Karn reconsideration of its
> decision concerning message forwarding systems in the Amateur
> Service. Karn sought reconsideration of the Commission's
> decision that requires the licensee of the forwarding station
> to either authenticate the identity of the station from which
> its accepts communications on behalf of the system, or accept
> accountability for the content of the message.

Maybe this can be used to allow authenticating logins using a public key encryption system? I know that ciphers aren't allowed and it's been a real problem using passwords over packet (think remote sysop stuff)... just a thought!

Stu Mitchell
USFWS Forensic Lab
Ashland, Oregon

stu@lab.r1.fws.gov
mitchellstu@fws.gov
*** Follow Me! ***

125. [BBSSIG:331] Re: COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Fri, 30 Dec 94 23:21:02 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rNyAz-0000H9C@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

You don't need public key encryption if both ends can share a secret. The AA4RE BBS has two authentication schemes. One is based on the industry standard CHAP as per RFC1321. I stayed away from public key

due to the patent hassles.

Authentication schemes are available. We just have to use them!

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

126. JNOS1.10H and FBB forwards

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 31 Dec 1994 07:59:06 -0700 (MST)
To: NOS-BBS Sig <nos-bbs@hydra.carleton.ca>
Cc: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.941231074248.21850A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have seen some mail about using the newest version of jnos to forward via the FBB standard. I am happy to announce that KA50Y0 Bill and I are forwarding using this method thru a 1200 baud node and it works as it should in every respect!

My nos forwards via the BPQ switch to my Real BBS and then to Bill. So far it's been fine. Had one problem forwarding via the tcp/ip loopback port something got messed up and the BPQ switch failed for the first time in 3 years of running it!

So will report any small problems encountered but I can say now that the bbs part of nos is close to technically perfect. Of course it is in no way as good as a full pbbs software from the fine authers that write it for our hobby. But as we have seen the MSYS effort to do tcp/ip is sure not the same quality as the authers of nos have put in the latest versions.

Happy New Year to All

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

January 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9501

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9501

1. Re: [BBSSIG:329] Re: COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sun, 1 Jan 1995 07:27:31 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950101070915.2160A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 30 Dec 1994, Steven R. Bible wrote:

> >This just posted on the FCCREG Committee TAPR group by Dewayne Hendricks,
> >WA8DZP. I thought some of the folks on the BBSSIG might be interested.
> >
> >Cheers - Greg
> >
> >---
> >
> > Report No. DC-2700
> > ACTION IN DOCKET CASE
> > December 29, 1994
> >
> > COMMISSION DENIES RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER CONCERNING
> > MESSAGE FORWARDING SYSTEMS IN THE AMATEUR SERVICE
> > (PR DOCKET NO. 93-85)

deleted

> This has the appearance of a bad precidence. In trying to relax the rules
> so that amateurs may experiment and not get bogged down by future
> technology, the FCC has basically said "if in the future the rules are too
> restrictive, then we'll change them."

This thinking is what prompts me to think we should EXPERIMENT
FIRST and ask for a rule change second when we can back up our alegations
with fact and DATA.

I work for the Army. For years I was mystified by the fact that
when I briefed on our work at White Sands Missile Range, NM the room was
always full to capacity with several hanger-on Generals. Much later a
high up civilian told me it was because I reported on REAL MEASUREMENTS.
At the Pentigon the people are daily briefed by industry on their new
wigit. They have expensive people with multi-color vu-grafs explaining
how they KNOW the new wigit is exactly what the Army needs.

Last month I briefed on the IR signature of a human inside the
latest uniforms from many countries. I was to brief Herb Fallon and his
staff. We had a room change from Herb's area to the large DOD room with
all the nice frills. The place was packed with people I didn't know. The
20 minute briefing lasted 2 hours and I was dead on my feet! But to say
the Washington people were happy to hear it is an understement.

So I say lets do the same thing in the Ham world. Let's
experiment and test and learn and report

>
> Technology has already surpassed the present rules and regulations. The
> rules are already too restrictive for experimentation. Why can't the FCC
^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

I don't think so Steve. So long as we do not piss off the other
countries FCC so they complain, and don't make rf outside the Ham bands
we should be ok.

> see this? I am of the mind that if the rules don't fit change them, but it
> seems that the FCC wants proof before they decide to change them.
>

>
> Steve, N7HPR
>

> srbible@cs.nps.navy.mil
> Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943
>
>
Thanks for the original thought Steve

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

2. Message Header Research

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 02:12:05 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199501120812.CAA10310@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In late Fall, I started thinking about doing a very simple study on the sizes of headers to messages in the current BBS forwarding system. I have a good guess, but I want to back up the currently collected data with files from different parts of the US. This is because the message traffic is different in different parts of the US.

I am looking for folks who have the ability to dump a large number of messages into a single file (looking for at least 500-1000) that covers a period between January 1st and January 31st.

Then be able to upload the files onto Internet for analysis or maybe send a disk. (I would prefer having the file directly on Intertnet)

If you think you are interested, send e-mail to wd5ivd@tapr.org.

Tell me

1. Who you are: Name and Callsign
2. City and State
3. Brief discussion of your BBS configuration (ports, traffic, users, etc)
4. how much traffic you think you handle in a month

Based on these I'll do a purposefull sample (mixed method for you postivists out there :).

If anyone is interested in helping with the analysis, let me know. I am using UNIX for all the basic crunching.

Greg, WD5IVD

3. Re: [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 11:21:21 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501121121.ZM14073@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jan 12, 2:19am, Greg Jones wrote:

- > Subject: [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research
- > In late Fall, I started thinking about doing a very simple study on the
- > sizes of headers to messages in the current BBS forwarding system. I have a
- > good guess, but I want to back up the currently collected data with files
- > from different parts of the US. This is because the message traffic is
- > different in different parts of the US.
- >
- > I am looking for folks who have the ability to dump a large number of
- > messages into a single file (looking for at least 500-1000) that covers a
- > period between January 1st and January 31st.
- >
- > Then be able to upload the files onto Internet for analysis or maybe send a
- > disk. (I would prefer having the file directly on Intertnet)
- >
- > If you think you are interested, send e-mail to wd5ivd@tapr.org.
- >

> Tell me
>
> 1. Who you are: Name and Callsign
> 2. City and State
> 3. Brief discussion of your BBS configuration (ports, traffic, users, etc)
> 4. how much traffic you think you handle in a month
>
> Based on these I'll do a purposefull sample (mixed method for you postivists
> out there :).
>
> If anyone is interested in helping with the analysis, let me know. I am
> using UNIX for all the basic crunching.

I run a similar analysis from time to time, on the messages currently resident on my system. Typically this is 1200-1500 messages representing about a three day average message load. The total number of messages for January will be roughly 12,000, but of course most are gone within 24 hours. Could easily keep a running average of header vs. body size sorted by any criteria of interest. However, all past samples have tended to run about the same: roughly 20-25% of the data on average is in the headers. Since headers compress "better" than body, the actual channel load due to headers is some amount less than 20%. This header/body ratio has remained roughly the same for the past 3 or 4 years.

Exporting the messages and analyzing the resulting export files would be fairly simple. I suggest however that you do the work in DOS instead of unix so that more folks can use the software you create.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

4. Re: [BBSSIG:336] Re: Message Header Research

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 14:53:09 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199501122053.0AA17970@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Hank Oredson:

> I run a similar analysis from time to time, on the messages currently
> resident on my system. Typically this is 1200-1500 messages representing
> about a three day average message load. The total number of messages
> for January will be roughly 12,000, but of course most are gone within
> 24 hours. Could easily keep a running average of header vs. body size
> sorted by any criteria of interest. However, all past samples have
> tended to run about the same: roughly 20-25% of the data on average
> is in the headers. Since headers compress "better" than body, the
> actual channel load due to headers is some amount less than 20%.
> This header/body ratio has remained roughly the same for the past
> 3 or 4 years.

Hank , in your case I will give you the process I am using and will let you do the analysis for you station :-) Will use as a after case test.

> Exporting the messages and analyzing the resulting export files would
> be fairly simple. I suggest however that you do the work in DOS instead
> of unix so that more folks can use the software you create.

The beauty of UNIX. I dont plan to write any software for the analysis over 10 lines. Just use all the tools available for doing it.

Greg

5. Re: [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research

From: Shelton McAnelly <shelton@tyrell.net>
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 15:12:46 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950112150139.9020A-100000@tyrell.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Greg I archive all messages here except the WP, maybe a few other categories also. Like FBB, they are stored in 10 files, based on last digit. But it probably is much more than 1000 messages, maybe 10 times that. These are not ordinary FBB archives but have been prepared using KE0WO's archiving program. They are ZIPPED and are straight numerical sequence in each file, that is every 10th one. This is vastly superior to the mixed up type of FBB archiving. They are produced automatically during daily housekeeping, being added with PKZIP in maximum compression I think that they should directly unzip message by message and that sort on the resulting directory might work to put them all in sequence. I doubt that there are many who run that program.

6. Re: [BBSSIG:337] Re: Message Header Research

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 13:26:57 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501121326.ZM14147@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jan 12, 2:59pm, Greg Jones wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:337] Re: Message Header Research
> According to Hank Oredson:
> > I run a similar analysis from time to time, on the messages currently
> > resident on my system. Typically this is 1200-1500 messages representing
> > about a three day average message load. The total number of messages
> > for January will be roughly 12,000, but of course most are gone within
> > 24 hours. Could easily keep a running average of header vs. body size
> > sorted by any criteria of interest. However, all past samples have
> > tended to run about the same: roughly 20-25% of the data on average
> > is in the headers. Since headers compress "better" than body, the
> > actual channel load due to headers is some amount less than 20%.
> > This header/body ratio has remained roughly the same for the past
> > 3 or 4 years.
>
> Hank, in your case I will give you the process I am using and will let you
do
> the analysis for you station :-). Will use as a after case test.

Won't help if they are unix tools (perl scripts perhaps would, since
DOS perl is available).

> > Exporting the messages and analyzing the resulting export files would
> > be fairly simple. I suggest however that you do the work in DOS instead
> > of unix so that more folks can use the software you create.
>
> The beauty of UNIX. I don't plan to write any software for the analysis over
> 10 lines. Just use all the tools available for doing it.

I'm not going to move the data over to unix - it will be around
7-10 MB for a month worth. Suspect the same will be true for most
folks, just not worth moving the data over. The analysis will be
interesting though, and if the software was made available then
others can run it and do their own analysis.

My tools for the analysis are available of course, but they only
run under DOS ... would run under unix as well but the data is on
a DOS system ...

The other thing I was hinting about was the idea that the software that
moves the messages about might well create summary data that is more
interesting than an analysis of the raw message data. For example,
I keep a statistic on compressed vs. uncompressed data sizes. From
this information, and the connect data that is saved, it is simple to
derive time averaged channel use and other interesting statistics.

Another analysis I've found interesting is to analyze headers for
interhop delays between pairs of stations, and forwarding path information.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

7. Re: [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research

From: Shelton McAnelly <shelton@tyrell.net>
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 15:54:59 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950112154621.14425A-100000@tyrell.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Greg. This is an elaboration of my reply of a few minutes ago. I checked the archives collection. I started using this program about mid 94, I believe. About mid December this year, the archives had grown so much that I saved everything to a Directory on separate drive and started another set of directories as the active current set. The first set is somewhat spotty up to about message number 10,000 then almost continuous except for the WPs and a few others up to about message 52000. The messages are sequential, zipped, in 10 files of about 3.4 MB each. Indexfiles, programs, etc run about another 2.5 mb total.
Ok Just got notification of a reply from you just received.
I will send this and get back.

8. Re: [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research

From: Shelton McAnelly <shelton@tyrell.net>
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 16:09:29 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950112160520.14425B-100000@tyrell.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Greg. This is the third message of this series. Continuing, we are now about message 60,000 and except for the last 24 hours are current. Certainly, it would include the 8-10 K messages starting Jan 1,1995 to date after the next housekeeping is done tonight.
73 de Shelton

9. headers

From: "John W. (Bill) Hays, W00MV" <billh@INS.INFONET.NET>
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 16:48:55 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098A5C4.DAA9BFA9.86@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On occasion, actually quite often with personal msgs, I examine the headers to see why or how long and where were the delays in fwdg.

How do the SYSOPS feel about a regular NON-SYSOP when he notes a rather long interval between rcpt and subsequent fwdg of being sent a copy of the headers with short note abt the delay?

I hv done so a couple of times and added a note tt perhaps the system suffered a crash of a Hard Drive etc. and a myriad of other possible reasons not to mention poor propagation on HF.

Otyherwise how do SYSOPS determine trbl spots?
73,
Bill

10. Re: [BBSSIG:342] headers - Delays

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 16:17:46 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199501130018.QAA04647@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>On occasion, actually quite often with personal msgs, I examine the
>headers to see why or how long and where were the delays in fwdg.

>

>How do the SYSOPS feel about a regular NON-SYSOP when he notes a
>rather long interval between rcpt and subsequent fwdg of being sent
>a copy of the headers with short note abt the delay?

>

>I hv done so a couple of times and added a note tt perhaps the system
>suffered a crash of a Hard Drive etc. and a myriad of other possible
>reasons not to mention poor propagation on HF.

>

>Otyherwise how do SYSOPS determine trbl spots?

>73,
>Bill
>

Sysops should notice these delays, ... but don't very often. A polite note might be in order to call his attention to a CRONIC problem, but keep in mind that many delays are due to misaddressed messages that are held for the sysop to review and correct.

You may recall reading, last year in a ham newspaper, of a message that took an inordinate length of time to work its way around the SF Bay area to its destination BBS. It was used as an example of how poorly the BBS mail system was working. The author was probably unaware that his message bore the wrong @BBS (which I corrected the next day while reviewing unread personal mail)

Regional designators (#NOCAL, #CENCA, #SOCA) can make a big difference. A day can easily be lost when a msg is forwarded on HF to the wrong end of a large state. Use them correctly. If you MUST use maidenhead location codes (FN12AB, etc), be sure that they appear to the left of the #regional (@W1XYZ.FN12AB.#ENY.NY.USA.NOAM).

Propagation dropouts, heavy traffic loads and equipment breakdown are only a few of the other mechanisms that sysops have to contend. If you have spent very much time examining headers, you will also find too many BBS's with mis-set clocks, some set to local time instead of GMT, some a day fast or a day slow, some with the GMT/local offset applied in reverse, etc.

- a.) Make sure the delay is real and not an illusion caused by a mis-set clock.
- b.) Was the message correctly addressed? Typos in H_Addr's will delay a msg.
- c.) Is it a cronic problem or a single occurrence?

Be sure to include a copy of the message headers in your note.

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

11. Re: [BBSSIG:339] Re: Message Header Research

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 10:42:42 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rSq46-0001K9C@dptsdp.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

While analyzing header info may be useful, why not analyze how many of your messages are being read locally, by whom, and their category? Seems to me it would be more advantageous to analyze the service being provided to local users in terms of what THEY are interested in. It would be interesting to make a national comparison of user tastes. From this, there may, or may not, be a reason to prioritize certain categories of traffic.

When I first casually started checking on our reader statistics, the ratio of messages available versus those read was around 60 percent. It has steadily declined over the years and is currently around 3 percent! From comments by other sysops, this is a typical trend nationwide. Indeed, this was one of the original discussion topics listed for this group.

There IS a need to come to grips with this issue. Is the decline due to poor local networking? Is it due to inadequate BBS software? Is it because sysops aren't "social enough" to the locals? Is it due to users being overwhelmed with too much of a good thing? Or is it due to the users being turned off by the general content they see?

Whatever the reason, if only less than 10 percent of the messages are being read, then the remaining 90 percent is nothing more than QRM. If analysis of the users interests are made and implemented, something worthwhile can be gained by reducing the QRM level.
73 de Jack

12. Re: [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 11:06:46 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950113105924.15434A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 12 Jan 1995, Greg Jones wrote:

- > In late Fall, I started thinking about doing a very simple study on the
- > sizes of headers to messages in the current BBS forwarding system. I have a

> good guess, but I want to back up the currently collected data with files
 > from different parts of the US. This is because the message traffic is
 > different in different parts of the US.
 >
 > I am looking for folks who have the ability to dump a large number of
 > messages into a single file (looking for at least 500-1000) that covers a
 > period between January 1st and January 31st.

Greg, the f6fbb server can save the mail to files based on the
 To: address or the @ address. I can and will do this begining when you
 tell me which grouping you prefer. It is so simple I don't mind doing it.

>
 > Then be able to upload the files onto Internet for analysis or maybe send a
 > disk. (I would prefer having the file directly on Intertnet)
 >

As last time Greg I can upload this information in .zip files on
 a week by week basis.

> If you think you are interested, send e-mail to wd5ivd@tapr.org.

>
 > Tell me
 >
 > 1. Who you are: Name and Callsign
 > 2. City and State
 > 3. Brief discussion of your BBS configuration (ports, traffic, users, etc)
 > 4. how much traffic you think you handle in a month
 >
 > Based on these I'll do a purposefull sample (mixed method for you postivists
 > out there :).
 >
 > If anyone is interested in helping with the analysis, let me know. I am
 > using UNIX for all the basic crunching.
 >

Reading all those messages is less simple. You do that...hi

> Greg, WD5IVD

>
 >
 >

 * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
 *
 * The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
 * Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
 *
 * Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
 *

13. RE: [BBSSIG:344] Re: Message Header Research

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrrl.org>
 Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 14:27:00 EST
 To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
 Message-ID: <2F16D452@arrrl.org>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

>

 --
 > When I casually started checking our reader statistics, the
 > ratio of messages available vs those read was about 60%. It
 > has steadily declined over the years and is currently around
 > 3%! From comments by other SysOps, this is a typical trend
 > nationwide....

What a shock.

> There IS a need to come to grips with this issue. Is the
 > decline due to poor local networking? Is it due to inadequate
 > PBBS software? Is it because SysOps aren't "social enough" to
 > the locals? Is it due to users being overwhelmed with too

> much of a good thing? Or is it due to the users being turned
> off by the general content they see?
>
> ...if less than 10% of the messages are read, the remaining
> 90% is nothing more than QRM. If analyses of the users' interests
> are made and implemented, something worthwhile can be
> gained by reducing the QRM level.

Jack,

I was tempted to simply reply, "DUH!" But I didn't want to seem rude. 8-)

It amazes me that whenever I bother checking into the local AX.25 PBBS, I dare not type "L" as I used to do in the "old days" (a year or two ago). Now there's an endless cascade of dozens of screenfuls of @WW and @USBBS junk mail. (I'm sure glad I run a NOS station now; it makes reading mail much easier and our local TCP/IP net has people who forward bulletins we want to receive by advance request.) I don't think ANYONE should "censor" Amateur Radio communication for esoteric or value judgment of content (if legal), but holy moley, amateurs everywhere sure abuse the system by routinely dumping every little comment, question, complaint and offhand thought to some immense catch-all distribution, such as ALL@WW or whatever.

I'm not a PBBS SysOp (I have enough to do!), but if I was, I'd figure out some way to make sure every user who posted a bulletin to EVERYONE@EVERYWHERE or whatever would first have to read an educational/cautionary, friendly greeting message that would explain why such addresses are usually a very poor choice. If I normally looked at the PBBS every day, I'd probably put a flag on to Hold all bulletins ("SB") originated on my station that were addressed to @USBBS or @WW. Then I could look 'em over and maybe politely contact the person who posted 'em to see if @ALLOVERTHEPLACE was truly necessary.

I know this is more "work" (ie, thought) for the users, but would it kill them to think before they post a message? Heck, not many people get away with crossposting to EVERY newsgroup on the Internet or in the wrong Fidonet Echoes.

Yes, it takes a bit of effort for a SysOp to deal with this, but if *every* SysOp did it just on the stuff that originates on their own PBBS, everyone else might see a marked sudden drop in the sheer quantity of bulletin traffic that roars through their stations. And then you'd see the percentage of material users actually read go up.

Would it be interesting if you could post bulletins to ALL@WW and then somehow "retrieve" them with some sort of flag denoting whether anyone anywhere every read the thing? I think most amateurs would be surprised and maybe more than a little frustrated to see that no one reads most of those messages. (Maybe something interesting would be if PBBS software included the capability to have some kind of "Read Receipt" generated by the PBBS where it's read, sent back to the person who posted it...?)

Well, this probably isn't something worth worrying about. It's unlikely that it will ever change. The easiest way to deal with it for now is to use the selective "List" commands available from most PBBS software.

Have an exceptional weekend!

--CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 "The World's Foremost Authority"
QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrl.org (office)
battles@ibm.net (home)
AX.25: WS10@W1EDH.CT.USA.NOAm.EARTH
Amprnet ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

14. Re: [BBSSIG:344] Re: Message Header Research

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 15:51:32 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950113153909.20586A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 13 Jan 1995, Jack Taylor wrote:

lots removed

> There IS a need to come to grips with this issue. Is the decline due to
> poor local networking? Is it due to inadequate BBS software? Is it
> because sysops aren't "social enough" to the locals? Is it due to users
> being overwhelmed with too much of a good thing? Or is it due to the
> users being turned off by the general content they see?
>

Jack the reason so few are read must be that the titles are such
that many people just list and never read...I had a bulletin that was
meant to be for test that got out by accident and the title was "Wife for
Sale". Judging from the return mail I recieved it must have been read by
every packet ham in the USA!

> Whatever the reason, if only less than 10 percent of the messages are being
> read, then the remaining 90 percent is nothing more than QRM.

Not a good idea Jack Taylor. Since the bulletins go to all the
pbbs in the country, it's quite possible that every message is read
somewhere at least once.

What you can do is see if anyone is reading the @WW mail. It is
large and has, to me, strange titles. So then you could kill those as
they arrive, or ask Bill's forwarding partner to stop sending them.

If analysis
> of the users interests are made and implemented, something worthwile can
> be gained by reducing the QRM level.
> 73 de Jack
>

You are avocating that sysops be accused of sensorship of the
news. It has happened to me, and it hurts!

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

15. BBS Software Preference

From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 15:42:26 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <ab3cbf97a10210045fb0@[129.46.12.181]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I would like to know your preferences in BBS software and why. We are
using MSYS, and it seems a little "klunky". I havn't had much experience
with the others, and don't have time to set each one up and learn it just
to compare it to the others.

Maybe you could list the one you are using and 3 or 4 bullets under it as
to it's key features and why it was chosen. Maybe why one is better than
another.

Thanks.

Marvin - WB6PKK
mmunster@qualcomm.com

16. Re: [BBSSIG:344] Re: Message Header Research

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 22:39:11 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501140239.AA20446@bud.peinet.pe.ca>

Rendered body type: text/plain

>While analyzing header info may be useful, why not analyze how many of your
>messages are being read locally, by whom, and their category? Seems to me
>it would be more advantageous to analyze the service being provided to
>local users in terms of what THEY are interested in. It would be
>interesting to make a national comparison of user tastes. From this, there
>may, or may not, be a reason to prioritize certain categories of traffic.
>

I agree, when I ran RLI code years ago I could easily check if bulletins
were read and how many times. It guided me as to what types of bulletins
were popular and whether I should waste network time on @WW or such.
(I dont and I do have an ever increasing REJECT.SYS file on my FBB now too)

>

>There IS a need to come to grips with this issue. Is the decline due to
>poor local networking? Is it due to inadequate BBS software? Is it
>because sysops aren't "social enough" to the locals? Is it due to users
>being overwhelmed with too much of a good thing? Or is it due to the
>users being turned off by the general content they see?
>

>Whatever the reason, if only less than 10 percent of the messages are being
>read, then the remaining 90 percent is nothing more than QRM. If analysis
>of the users interests are made and implemented, something worthwhile can
>be gained by reducing the QRM level.
>73 de Jack
>

I suspect the readership may have dropped some but more importantly more
"garbage" is being generated as well as abuse of wide-coverage designators like
WW, ALLUS and even AMSAT that overload the airways.
The increased use of Internet by Hams (like me) has allowed us to easily access
the 1 in 100 bulletins we WANT to read without spending all day typing up BBS
and Networks..so why not use RADIO for REAL Ham Radio information (PERSONAL
MAIL,
Regional bulletins and True Organizational bulletins eg:ARRL,AMSAT, RAC etc.)

73 - Ron
VE1AIC@VE1AIC.PE.CAN.NOAM

17. [BBSSIG:341] Re: Message Header Research

From: shelton@tyrell.net (Shelton@tyrell.net)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 16:24:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358515@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Shelton McAnelly <shelton@tyrell.net>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 16:24 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:341] Re: Message Header Research

Hi Greg. This is the third message of this series.
Continuing, we are now about message 60,000 and except for the last
24 hours are current.
Certainly, it would include the 8-10 K messages starting Jan 1,1995
to date after the next housekeeping is done tonight.
73 de Shelton

18. [BBSSIG:348] BBS Software Preference

From: marvin.munster.x5388@phx-az.com (Marvin Munster X5388)
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 17:54:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95011323585414@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 17:54 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:348] BBS Software Preference

I would like to know your preferences in BBS software and why. We are
using MSYS, and it seems a little "klunky". I havn't had much experience
with the others, and don't have time to set each one up and learn it just
to compare it to the others.

Maybe you could list the one you are using and 3 or 4 bullets under it as
to it's key features and why it was chosen. Maybe why one is better than

another.

Thanks.

Marvin - WB6PKK
mmunster@qualcomm.com

19. [BBSSIG:342] headers

From: bill@phx-az.com (Bill)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 16:56:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358516@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: "John W. (Bill) Hays, W00MV" <billh@INS.INFONET.NET>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 16:56 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:342] headers

On occasion, actually quite often with personal msgs, I examine the headers to see why or how long and where were the delays in fwdg.

How do the SYSOPS feel about a regular NON-SYSOP when he notes a rather long interval between rcpt and subsequent fwdg of being sent a copy of the headers with short note abt the delay?

I hv done so a couple of times and added a note tt perhaps the system suffered a crash of a Hard Drive etc. and a myriad of other possible reasons not to mention poor propagation on HF.

Otyherwise how do SYSOPS determine trbl spots?
73,
Bill

20. [BBSSIG:338] Re: Message Header Research

From: shelton@tyrell.net (Shelton@tyrell.net)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 15:20:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358514@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Shelton McAnelly <shelton@tyrell.net>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 15:20 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:338] Re: Message Header Research

Hi Greg I archive all messages here except the WP, maybe a few other categories also. Like FBB, they are stored in 10 files, based on last digit. But it probably is much more than 1000 messages, maybe 10 times that. These are not ordinary FBB archives but have been prepared using KE0W0's archiving program. They are ZIPPED and are straight numerical sequence in each file, that is every 10th one. This is vastly superior to the mixed up type of FBB archiving. They are produced automatically during daily housekeeping, being added with PKZIP in maximum compression I think that they should directly unzip message by message and that sort on the resulting directory might work to put them all in sequence. I doubt that there are many who run that program.

21. [BBSSIG:340] Re: Message Header Research

From: shelton@tyrell.net (Shelton@tyrell.net)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 16:01:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358528@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Shelton McAnelly <shelton@tyrell.net>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 16:01 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:340] Re: Message Header Research

Hi Greg. This is an elaboration of my reply of a few minutes ago. I checked the archives collection. I started using this program about mid 94, I believe. About mid December this year, the archives had grown so much that I saved everything to a Directory on separate drive and started another set of directories as the active current set. The first set is somewhat spotty up to about message number 10,000 then almost continuous except for the WPs and a few others

up to about message 52000. The messages are sequential, zipped,
in 10 files of about 3.4 MB each. Indexfiles, programs, etc
run about another 2.5 mb total.
Ok Just got notification of a reply from you just received.
I will send this and get back.

22. [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research

From: gjones@tenet.edu (Gjones@tenet.edu)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 02:19:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358501@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 02:19 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research

In late Fall, I started thinking about doing a very simple study on the sizes of headers to messages in the current BBS forwarding system. I have a good guess, but I want to back up the currently collected data with files from different parts of the US. This is because the message traffic is different in different parts of the US.

I am looking for folks who have the ability to dump a large number of messages into a single file (looking for at least 500-1000) that covers a period between January 1st and January 31st.

Then be able to upload the files onto Internet for analysis or maybe send a disk. (I would prefer having the file directly on Intertnet)

If you think you are interested, send e-mail to wd5ivd@tapr.org.

Tell me

1. Who you are: Name and Callsign
2. City and State
3. Brief discussion of your BBS configuration (ports, traffic, users, etc)
4. how much traffic you think you handle in a month

Based on these I'll do a purposefull sample (mixed method for you postivists out there :).

If anyone is interested in helping with the analysis, let me know. I am using UNIX for all the basic crunching.

Greg, WD5IVD

23. [BBSSIG:337] Re: Message Header Research

From: gjones@tenet.edu (Gjones@tenet.edu)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 14:59:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358503@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 14:59 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:337] Re: Message Header Research

According to Hank Oredson:

- > I run a similar analysis from time to time, on the messages currently
- > resident on my system. Typically this is 1200-1500 messages representing
- > about a three day average message load. The total number of messages
- > for January will be roughly 12,000, but of course most are gone within
- > 24 hours. Could easily keep a running average of header vs. body size
- > sorted by any criteria of interest. However, all past samples have
- > tended to run about the same: roughly 20-25% of the data on average
- > is in the headers. Since headers compress "better" than body, the
- > actual channel load due to headers is some amount less than 20%.
- > This header/body ratio has remained roughly the same for the past
- > 3 or 4 years.

Hank, in your case I will give you the process I am using and will let you do the analysis for you station :-)) Will use as a after case test.

- > Exporting the messages and analyzing the resulting export files would
- > be fairly simple. I suggest however that you do the work in DOS instead
- > of unix so that more folks can use the software you create.

The beauty of UNIX. I don't plan to write any software for the analysis over 10 lines. Just use all the tools available for doing it.

Greg

24. [BBSSIG:344] Re: Message Header Research

From: n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil (N7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil)
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 11:54:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95011323585210@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 11:54 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:344] Re: Message Header Research

While analyzing header info may be useful, why not analyze how many of your messages are being read locally, by whom, and their category? Seems to me it would be more advantageous to analyze the service being provided to local users in terms of what THEY are interested in. It would be interesting to make a national comparison of user tastes. From this, there may, or may not, be a reason to prioritize certain categories of traffic.

When I first casually started checking on our reader statistics, the ratio of messages available versus those read was around 60 percent. It has steadily declined over the years and is currently around 3 percent! From comments by other sysops, this is a typical trend nationwide. Indeed, this was one of the original discussion topics listed for this group.

There IS a need to come to grips with this issue. Is the decline due to poor local networking? Is it due to inadequate BBS software? Is it because sysops aren't "social enough" to the locals? Is it due to users being overwhelmed with too much of a good thing? Or is it due to the users being turned off by the general content they see?

Whatever the reason, if only less than 10 percent of the messages are being read, then the remaining 90 percent is nothing more than QRM. If analysis of the users interests are made and implemented, something worthwhile can be gained by reducing the QRM level.
73 de Jack

25. [BBSSIG:339] Re: Message Header Research

From: hank.oredson@phx-az.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 15:37:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358527@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 15:37 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:339] Re: Message Header Research

On Jan 12, 2:59pm, Greg Jones wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:337] Re: Message Header Research
> According to Hank Oredson:
> > I run a similar analysis from time to time, on the messages currently
> > resident on my system. Typically this is 1200-1500 messages representing
> > about a three day average message load. The total number of messages
> > for January will be roughly 12,000, but of course most are gone within
> > 24 hours. Could easily keep a running average of header vs. body size
> > sorted by any criteria of interest. However, all past samples have
> > tended to run about the same: roughly 20-25% of the data on average
> > is in the headers. Since headers compress "better" than body, the
> > actual channel load due to headers is some amount less than 20%.
> > This header/body ratio has remained roughly the same for the past
> > 3 or 4 years.
>
> Hank, in your case I will give you the process I am using and will let you do
> the analysis for you station :-). Will use as a after case test.

Won't help if they are unix tools (perl scripts perhaps would, since DOS perl is available).

> > Exporting the messages and analyzing the resulting export files would
> > be fairly simple. I suggest however that you do the work in DOS instead

> > of unix so that more folks can use the software you create.
>
> The beauty of UNIX. I dont plan to write any software for the analysis over
> 10 lines. Just use all the tools available for doing it.

I'm not going to move the data over to unix - it will be around
7-10 MB for a month worth. Suspect the same will be true for most
folks, just not worth moving the data over. The analysis will be
interesting though, and if the software was made available then
others can run it and do their own analysis.

My tools for the analysis are available of course, but they only
run under DOS ... would run under unix as well but the data is on
a DOS system ...

The other thing I was hinting about was the idea that the software that
moves the messages about might well create summary data that is more
interesting than an analysis of the raw message data. For example,
I keep a statistic on compressed vs. uncompressed data sizes. From
this information, and the connect data that is saved, it is simple to
derive time averaged channel use and other interesting statistics.

Another analysis I've found interesting is to analyze headers for
interhop delays between pairs of stations, and forwarding path information.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

26. [BBSSIG:346] Re: Message Header Research

From: bbattles@arrl.org (Bbattles@arrl.org)
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 14:07:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95011323585312@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 14:07 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:346] Re: Message Header Research

>

--
> When I casually started checking our reader statistics, the
> ratio of messages available vs those read was about 60%. It
> has steadily declined over the years and is currently around
> 3%! From comments by other SysOps, this is a typical trend
> nationwide....

What a shock.

> There IS a need to come to grips with this issue. Is the
> decline due to poor local networking? Is it due to inadequate
> PBBS software? Is it because SysOps aren't "social enough" to
> the locals? Is it due to users being overwhelmed with too
> much of a good thing? Or is it due to the users being turned
> off by the general content they see?
>
> ...if less than 10% of the messages are read, the remaining
> 90% is nothing more than QRM. If analyses of the users' interests
> are made and implemented, something worthwhile can be
> gained by reducing the QRM level.

Jack,

I was tempted to simply reply, "DUH!" But I didn't want to seem rude. 8-)

It amazes me that whenever I bother checking into the local AX.25 PBBS, I
dare not type "L" as I used to do in the "old days" (a year or two ago). Now

there's an endless cascade of dozens of screenfuls of @WW and @USBBS junque mail. (I'm sure glad I run a NOS station now; it makes reading mail much easier and our local TCP/IP net has people who forward bulletins we want to receive by advance request.) I don't think ANYONE should "censor" Amateur Radio communication for esoteric or value judgment of content (if legal), but holy moley, amateurs everywhere sure abuse the system by routinely dumping every little comment, question, complaint and offhand thought to some immense catch-all distribution, such as ALL@WW or whatever.

I'm not a PBBS SysOp (I have enough to do!), but if I was, I'd figure out some way to make sure every user who posted a bulletin to EVERYONE@EVERYWHERE or whatever would first have to read an educational/cautionary, friendly greeting message that would explain why such addresses are usually a very poor choice. If I normally looked at the PBBS every day, I'd probably put a flag on to Hold all bulletins ("SB") originated on my station that were addressed to @USBBS or @WW. Then I could look 'em over and maybe politely contact the person who posted 'em to see if @ALLOVERTHEPLACE was truly necessary.

I know this is more "work" (ie, thought) for the users, but would it kill them to think before they post a message? Heck, not many people get away with crossposting to EVERY newsgroup on the Internet or in the wrong Fidonet Echoes.

Yes, it takes a bit of effort for a SysOp to deal with this, but if *every* SysOp did it just on the stuff that originates on their own PBBS, everyone else might see a marked sudden drop in the sheer quantity of bulletin traffic that roars through their stations. And then you'd see the percentage of material users actually read go up.

Would it be interesting if you could post bulletins to ALL@WW and then somehow "retrieve" them with some sort of flag denoting whether anyone anywhere every read the thing? I think most amateurs would be surprised and maybe more than a little frustrated to see that no one reads most of those messages. (Maybe something interesting would be if PBBS software included the capability to have some kind of "Read Receipt" generated by the PBBS where it's read, sent back to the person who posted it...?)

Well, this probably isn't something worth worrying about. It's unlikely that it will ever change. The easiest way to deal with it for now is to use the selective "List" commands available from most PBBS software.

Have an exceptional weekend!

--CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 "The World's Foremost Authority"
QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrrl.org (office)
battles@ibm.net (home)
AX.25: WS10@W1EDH.CT.USA.NOAm.EARTH
Amprnet ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

27. [BBSSIG:349] Re: Message Header Research

From: ron.vela@phx-az.com (Ron Velaic)
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 20:53:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95011323585415@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 20:53 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:349] Re: Message Header Research

>While analyzing header info may be useful, why not analyze how many of your
>messages are being read locally, by whom, and their category? Seems to me
>it would be more advantageous to analyze the service being provided to
>local users in terms of what THEY are interested in. It would be
>interesting to make a national comparison of user tastes. From this, there
>may, or may not, be a reason to prioritize certain categories of traffic.
>

I agree, when I ran RLI code years ago I could easily check if bulletins were read and how many times. It guided me as to what types of bulletins were popular and whether I should waste network time on @WW or such.

(I dont and I do have an ever increasing REJECT.SYS file on my FBB now too)

>
>There IS a need to come to grips with this issue. Is the decline due to
>poor local networking? Is it due to inadequate BBS software? Is it
>because sysops aren't "social enough" to the locals? Is it due to users
>being overwhelmed with too much of a good thing? Or is it due to the
>users being turned off by the general content they see?
>
>Whatever the reason, if only less than 10 percent of the messages are being
>read, then the remaining 90 percent is nothing more than QRM. If analysis
>of the users interests are made and implemented, something worthwhile can
>be gained by reducing the QRM level.
>73 de Jack
>

I suspect the readership may have dropped some but more importantly more
"garbage" is being generated as well as abuse of wide-coverage designators like
WW, ALLUS and even AMSAT that overload the airways.
The increased use of Internet by Hams (like me) has allowed us to easily access
the 1 in 100 bulletins we WANT to read without spending all day typing up BBS
and Networks..so why not use RADIO for REAL Ham Radio information (PERSONAL
MAIL,
Regional bulletins and True Organizational bulletins eg:ARRL,AMSAT, RAC etc.)

73 - Ron
VE1AIC@VE1AIC.PE.CAN.NOAM

28. [BBSSIG:347] Re: Message Header Research

From: k5di@kazak.nmsu.edu (K5di@kazak.nmsu.edu)
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 16:55:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95011323585413@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 16:55 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:347] Re: Message Header Research

On Fri, 13 Jan 1995, Jack Taylor wrote:

lots removed

> There IS a need to come to grips with this issue. Is the decline due to
> poor local networking? Is it due to inadequate BBS software? Is it
> because sysops aren't "social enough" to the locals? Is it due to users
> being overwhelmed with too much of a good thing? Or is it due to the
> users being turned off by the general content they see?
>

Jack the reason so few are read must be that the titles are such
that many people just list and never read...I had a bulletin that was
meant to be for test that got out by accident and the title was "Wife for
Sale". Judging from the return mail I recieved it must have been read by
every packet ham in the USA!

> Whatever the reason, if only less than 10 percent of the messages are being
> read, then the remaining 90 percent is nothing more than QRM.

Not a good idea Jack Taylor. Since the bulletins go to all the
pbbs in the country, it's quite possible that every message is read
somewhere at least once.

What you can do is see if anyone is reading the @WW mail. It is
large and has, to me, strange titles. So then you could kill those as
they arrive, or ask Bill's forwarding partner to stop sending them.

If analysis
> of the users interests are made and implemented, something worthwhile can
> be gained by reducing the QRM level.
> 73 de Jack

>
You are avocating that sysops be accused of sensorship of the news. It has happened to me, and it hurts!

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

29. [BBSSIG:343] Re: headers - Delays

From: mike.fahmie@phx-az.com (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 18:27:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358529@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 18:27 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:343] Re: headers - Delays

>On occasion, actually quite often with personal msgs, I examine the
>headers to see why or how long and where were the delays in fwdg.
>
>How do the SYSOPS feel aboput a regular NON-SYSOP when he notes a
>rather long interval between rcpt and subsequent fwdg of being sent
>a copy of the headers with short note abt the delay?
>
>I hv done so a couple of times and added a note tt perhaps the system
>suffered a crash of a Hard Drive etc. and a myriad of other possible
>reasons not to mention poor propagation on HF.
>
>Otyherwise how do SYSOPS determine trbl spots?
>73,
>Bill
>

Sysops should notice these delays, ... but don't very often. A
polite note might be in order to call his attention to a CRONIC problem, but
keep in mind that many delays are due to misaddressed messages that are held
for the sysop to review and correct.

You may recall reading, last year in a ham newspaper, of a message that took
an inordinate length of time to work its way around the SF Bay area to its
destination BBS. It was used as an example of how poorly the BBS mail
system was working. The author was probably unaware that his message bore
the wrong @BBS (which I corrected the next day while reviewing unread
personal mail)

Regional designators (#NOCAL, #CENCA, #SOCA) can make a big difference. A
day can easily be lost when a msg is forwarded on HF to the wrong end of a
large state. Use them correctly. If you MUST use maidenhead location codes
(FN12AB, etc), be sure that they appear to the left of the #regional
(@W1XYZ.FN12AB.#ENY.NY.USA.NOAM).

Propagation dropouts, heavy traffic loads and equipment breakdown are only a
few of the other mechanisms that sysops have to contend. If you have spent
very much time examining headers, you will also find too many BBS's with
mis-set clocks, some set to local time instead of GMT, some a day fast or a
day slow, some with the GMT/local offset applied in reverse, etc.

- a.) Make sure the delay is real and not an illusion caused by a mis-set clock.
- b.) Was the message correctly addressed? Typos in H_Addr's will delay a msg.
- c.) Is it a cronic problem or a single occurence?

Be sure to include a copy of the message headers in your note.

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

30. [BBSSIG:336] Re: Message Header Research

From: hank.oredson@phx-az.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 1995 13:24:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501132358502@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 13:24 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:336] Re: Message Header Research

On Jan 12, 2:19am, Greg Jones wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:335] Message Header Research
> In late Fall, I started thinking about doing a very simple study on the
> sizes of headers to messages in the current BBS forwarding system. I have a
> good guess, but I want to back up the currently collected data with files
> from different parts of the US. This is because the message traffic is
> different in different parts of the US.
>
> I am looking for folks who have the ability to dump a large number of
> messages into a single file (looking for at least 500-1000) that covers a
> period between January 1st and January 31st.
>
> Then be able to upload the files onto Internet for analysis or maybe send a
> disk. (I would prefer having the file directly on Intertnet)
>
> If you think you are interested, send e-mail to wd5ivd@tapr.org.
>
> Tell me
>
> 1. Who you are: Name and Callsign
> 2. City and State
> 3. Brief discussion of your BBS configuration (ports, traffic, users, etc)
> 4. how much traffic you think you handle in a month
>
> Based on these I'll do a purposefull sample (mixed method for you postivists
> out there :).
>
> If anyone is interested in helping with the analysis, let me know. I am
> using UNIX for all the basic crunching.

I run a similar analysis from time to time, on the messages currently
resident on my system. Typically this is 1200-1500 messages representing
about a three day average message load. The total number of messages
for January will be roughly 12,000, but of course most are gone within
24 hours. Could easily keep a running average of header vs. body size
sorted by any criteria of interest. However, all past samples have
tended to run about the same: roughly 20-25% of the data on average
is in the headers. Since headers compress "better" than body, the
actual channel load due to headers is some amount less than 20%.
This header/body ratio has remained roughly the same for the past
3 or 4 years.

Exporting the messages and analyzing the resulting export files would
be fairly simple. I suggest however that you do the work in DOS instead
of unix so that more folks can use the software you create.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

31. [BBSSIG:345] Re: Message Header Research

From: k5di@kazak.nmsu.edu (K5di@kazak.nmsu.edu)
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 1995 12:15:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95011323585311@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 12:15 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:345] Re: Message Header Research

On Thu, 12 Jan 1995, Greg Jones wrote:

> In late Fall, I started thinking about doing a very simple study on the
> sizes of headers to messages in the current BBS forwarding system. I have a
> good guess, but I want to back up the currently collected data with files
> from different parts of the US. This is because the message traffic is
> different in different parts of the US.
>
> I am looking for folks who have the ability to dump a large number of
> messages into a single file (looking for at least 500-1000) that covers a
> period between January 1st and January 31st.

Greg, the f6fbb server can save the mail to files based on the
To: address or the @ address. I can and will do this begining when you
tell me which grouping you prefer. It is so simple I don't mind doing it.

>
> Then be able to upload the files onto Internet for analysis or maybe send a
> disk. (I would prefer having the file directly on Intertnet)
>

As last time Greg I can upload this information in .zip files on
a week by week basis.

> If you think you are interested, send e-mail to wd5ivd@tapr.org.
>
> Tell me
>
> 1. Who you are: Name and Callsign
> 2. City and State
> 3. Brief discussion of your BBS configuration (ports, traffic, users, etc)
> 4. how much traffic you think you handle in a month
>
> Based on these I'll do a purposefull sample (mixed method for you postivists
> out there :).
>
> If anyone is interested in helping with the analysis, let me know. I am
> using UNIX for all the basic crunching.
>

Reading all those messages is less simple. You do that...hi

> Greg, WD5IVD
>
>

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

32. Re: [BBSSIG:351] BBS Software Preference

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 12:36:11 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501141636.AA08032@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
>To: bbssig@tapr.org
>Date: Fri, 13 Jan 95 17:54 CST
>Subject: [BBSSIG:348] BBS Software Preference
>

>I would like to know your preferences in BBS software and why. We are
>using MSYS, and it seems a little "klunky". I havn't had much experience
>with the others, and don't have time to set each one up and learn it just

>to compare it to the others.
>
>Maybe you could list the one you are using and 3 or 4 bullets under it as
>to it's key features and why it was chosen. Maybe why one is better than
>another.
>
>Thanks.
>
>Marvin - WB6PKK
>mmunster@qualcomm.com
>
>
>
Well some may think that the response should be w.r.t. personal preference,
you know like buying a Chev vs a Ford, and what options do you want.

I have been running F6FBB since it came out. Before that I ran RLI for
years with Desqview etc. Looked at MSYS and just shook my head. Only people
I know
running MSYS now do so because it has TCP. I prefer to run JNOS for TCP
and FBB for BBS.
Here are just a few of the many reasons I still run F6FBB:

1. Its very stable. Crashes are extrememly rare even with lots of power hits.
2. Very easy to use for Sysop & User.
(Easy to configure and maintain.)
3. Has lots of interfacing options that are reliable and easy to setup .
(BPQ, ESS, HOST-mode, Modem etc)
4. Very efficient (and stable) fwding system.
(Compressed fwding, partial file recovery, Reject/Hold and Swapp files)
5. It's probably the majority.
(My guess anyway)

I could give lots more reasons but that might just start a long discussion
on features/options etc, etc.
FYI my configuration is:(3 RS232 ports)
port 1: BPQ408 into KISS tnc on our LAN/WAN.
port 2: Two TheNet nodes, diode multi-plexed into this serial port for the
UHF back-bones.
port 3: ESS driver to MFJ1274 with TF4 Eprom (similar to WA8DED) for
Host mode. This gives Level-2 only operation and assignment
as a BBS-Only port for HF.

Your question was to "preference" not necessarily to "comparison" so there
you have it.

73 - Ron
velaic@velaic.pe.can.noam

33. Re: headers - delay

From: Robert <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 11:43:06 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501141143.aa24862@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I agree that headers supply important data for
seeing where time delays are in moving the message along.
The headers also supply information on where a BID is being
changed. This is more prone to happen when a system changes
to a different BBS package for the first time or upgrades to a new
version. I once sent a message to DX @ TEXAS and in a few days
there were four copies of it on the BBS. I could quickly look and
see which BBS's had changed the BID. Perhaps information in the header
could be reduced to just BBS callsign, BID, time & date.

As far as the 3% of messages being read: I have a 14.4K phone link into
the local packet BBS & I don't touch 3% of the messages & haven't
used "L" in some time. It's NOT the for sale messages that clutter up
the system either, there's alot of junk bulentins there. GL
--
73 Robert WB5CRG w5robert@blkbox.com

34. Re: [BBSSIG:348] BBS Software Preference

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 17:21:40 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950114171715.5335B-100000@kazak>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 13 Jan 1995, Marvin Munster x5388 wrote:

> I would like to know your preferences in BBS software and why. We are
> using MSYS, and it seems a little "klunky". I havn't had much experience
> with the others, and don't have time to set each one up and learn it just
> to compare it to the others.

Marvin, out west we have all changed to the F6FBB software IF we
have a 386 or better computer. I recommend the latest W0RLI software with
DeskVue for any using a 286 machine. But must say the FBB software will
run on almost any computer.

>
> Maybe you could list the one you are using and 3 or 4 bullets under it as
> to it's key features and why it was chosen. Maybe why one is better than
> another.
>
> Thanks.
>
> Marvin - WB6PKK
> mmunster@qualcomm.com
>
>
>

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
* *
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
* *
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
* *
*****
```

35. [BBSSIG:358] Re: Message Header Research

From: hank.oredson@phx-az.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 09:48:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95011412042524@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: hank.oredson@phx-az.com (Hank Oredson)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 09:48 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:358] Re: Message Header Research

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 15:37 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:339] Re: Message Header Research

On Jan 12, 2:59pm, Greg Jones wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:337] Re: Message Header Research
> According to Hank Oredson:
> > I run a similar analysis from time to time, on the messages currently
> > resident on my system. Typically this is 1200-1500 messages representing
> > about a three day average message load. The total number of messages
> > for January will be roughly 12,000, but of course most are gone within
> > 24 hours. Could easily keep a running average of header vs. body size
> > sorted by any criteria of interest. However, all past samples have
> > tended to run about the same: roughly 20-25% of the data on average
> > is in the headers. Since headers compress "better" than body, the
> > actual channel load due to headers is some amount less than 20%.
> > This header/body ratio has remained roughly the same for the past
> > 3 or 4 years.
>
> Hank, in your case I will give you the process I am using and will let you
do
> the analysis for you station :-). Will use as a after case test.

Won't help if they are unix tools (perl scripts perhaps would, since
DOS perl is available).

> > Exporting the messages and analyzing the resulting export files would
> > be fairly simple. I suggest however that you do the work in DOS instead
> > of unix so that more folks can use the software you create.

>
> The beauty of UNIX. I dont plan to write any software for the analysis over
> 10 lines. Just use all the tools available for doing it.

I'm not going to move the data over to unix - it will be around 7-10 MB for a month worth. Suspect the same will be true for most folks, just not worth moving the data over. The analysis will be interesting though, and if the software was made available then others can run it and do their own analysis.

My tools for the analysis are available of course, but they only run under DOS ... would run under unix as well but the data is on a DOS system ...

The other thing I was hinting about was the idea that the software that moves the messages about might well create summary data that is more interesting than an analysis of the raw message data. For example, I keep a statistic on compressed vs. uncompressed data sizes. From this information, and the connect data that is saved, it is simple to derive time averaged channel use and other interesting statistics.

Another analysis I've found interesting is to analyze headers for interhop delays between pairs of stations, and forwarding path information.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

36. Re: [BBSSIG:367] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 19:35:20 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9501141908.A18269-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 14 Jan 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> Marvin, out west we have all changed to the F6FBB software IF we
> have a 386 or better computer. I recommend the latest W0RLI software with
> DeskVue for any using a 286 machine. But must say the FBB software will
> run on almost any computer.

Well, I ran FBB for two years on an XT with no real problem. It has run on a 286 VERY well for over a year now. It is quite fast on the 286, and even faster on the 386-40.

Gary

37. Re: [BBSSIG:348] BBS Software Preference

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 22:35:03 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950114223214.10952A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 13 Jan 1995, Marvin Munster x5388 wrote:

> Maybe you could list the one you are using and 3 or 4 bullets under it as
> to it's key features and why it was chosen. Maybe why one is better than
> another.

CBBS 7.30

Just a PBBS, no "extra" features that you don't want. If you want them, use other programs to add it on.

Small and fast! runs great in a 128k window on desqview. Plus it is the quickest I've found so far. Althought, W0RLI 18.01 is ver close in speed.

Very configurable, and relatively simple to setup... if you read the docs first...

Hope this helps...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

38. Mail loops and other such stuff

From: n5lyt@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 22:52:48 -0600 (CST)
To: netsig@tapr.org, bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rTMxN-0000zKC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

As I'm sure all of you have noticed we have been experiencing mail loops on BBSSIG and NETSIG. We are trying to locate the culprit. Please bear with us.

39. Re: [BBSSIG:361] Re: Message Header Research

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 21:51:09 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rTMzd-0000ZjC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hmmm, yes I too noticed where Karl, K5DI advertised a wife for sale. I thought the price (considering all the time and investment involved) was reasonable.

Well, at this point and time Karl, we are not sure that any one bulletin is read by anyone and until some sort of analysis is done, we will never know. In the broadcast industry it's common to conduct surveys to find out viewer/listener interests. Based on these findings the industry may modify their offerings. We don't see protests of censorship when this is done. In a similar vein newspapers don't publish every letter that's submitted to them. Is this censorship anymore than a sysop making a decision to not forward certain bulletin topics?

As far as user education for the present BBS system, this is difficult and time consuming if the sysop is to instruct each and every new user. It would be nice if he could, but it probably be more practical if someone would develop a series of new user tutorials and have them included in each new software release. That way all new users would receive a "standard" exposure to BBS operation. I suggest this be done with the releases rather than by individual sysops, to ensure it be consistently available.

On another note, am I the ONLY one receiving multiple copies of TAPRSIG messages? If not, perhaps someone is changing the BIDs? :-(

73 de Jack

40. BPQ, FBB, xNOS, OS/2 Help Needed

From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 1995 20:34:32 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: nos-bbs@hydra.carleton.ca
Message-ID: <v01510100ab3f7a60a5be@[44.122.0.4]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Has anyone managed to make the BPQ switch work with the FBB BBS and a NOS like TNOS (separately or at the same time). I need help configuring my system under OS/2. All help will be appreciated.

I managed to configure the BPQCFG.TXT file and turn it into BPQCFG.BIN. I can launch BPQCODE in a DOS window, execute the BPQHTNC2.EXE program and then talk to the switch with the PAC4 program that comes in the BPQ.ZIP file ... all in the same OS/2 DOS session.

However, I do not have comms with the radio ports. I tried to keep it simple at first and used the same port address and interrupt level I am successfully using with TNOS. Later, I hope to have someone coming into the switch be able to connect to an FBB BBS by typing BBS, or the TNOS gateway by typing NOS.

I have an STB-4 hardware card and use the SIO drivers for OS/2. I have a six port version. I hope to also use a recently purchased internal modem

to connect an internet gateway via TNOS.

If anyone out there has something similar running, I would your advise is welcome. If you could mail your config files to me ... or post them where I can FTP them that would be great!

I need to know the sequence for launching all this also. For example. Do I need to keep BPQCODE and FBB running in the same OS/2 DOS session. How can I get the two to talk to TNOS in another OS/2 DOS session.

Please help.

73 de Dale

73 de Dale
INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam
Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)

41. Re: [BBSSIG:342] headers

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 95 23:18:37 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501160518.AA115132@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

How do sysops feel about a trouble report of a long delay in the transit of a message?

Usually frustrated.

Unfortunately, unless you are dealing with a local or regional problem (and the region is nearby), it's hard to get all of the players notified so that they can look at their forwarding dynamics.

If I am made aware of something within the state of Texas, I can send some e-mail or call up the parties since I personally know most of them. If it is out of state, it's hard to recommend solutions since one doesn't know anything about how forwarding is organized outside of one's region.

It doesn't irritate me, if that's what you're wondering. Just frustrates me.

Dave W05H

42. Re: [BBSSIG:348] BBS Software Preference

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 95 23:41:19 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501160541.AA115318@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

For what it's worth, I use AA4RE for the user board and FBB for the BBS the bbs forwarding board.

Will add a NOS system eventually.

Dave W05H

43. Re: [BBSSIG:369] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 95 23:54:04 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501160554.AA115368@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Another comment on FBB--

I use it for BBS forwarding on an XT and the thing runs for weeks and weeks and only shuts down when I decide to shut it down to rework the files, defrag the disk drive.

Dave

44. Re: [BBSSIG:351] BBS Software Preference

From: kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 95 13:14:03 EST

To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <21329@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Marvin
I currently use JNOS-1.08dff-WA3DSP
BUT for a local BBS i use offair and tied to JNOS
I use AA4RE BBS seems more stable than MSYS and good sysop features
as a 2nd Place choice PRMBS by KA2BQE

Not to say 1 is the best just a preference

73 Mike Hope this helps

Amprnet: KB2HJC@NX2B.AMPR.ORG AX.25: KB2HJC@WA2NDV.NY.USA.NOAM
Email: COMPUSERVE 75550.130 Internet: 75550.130@compuserve.com
Voice: 145.110 Rpt. PL 3B Phone: 609-886-8792
TCP/IP-Netrom: [44.65.32.24] IPHJC:KB2HJC-8

45. Lost messages on TAPR mailing lists

From: lcz@datapoint.com (Lee Ziegenhals)
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 1995 18:46:39 -0600 (CST)
Message-ID: <m0rU24F-0000j1C@dptsdp.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

We apologize for any lost mail to this mailing list during the past 24 hours. We have been making changes to the software. Doing this while trying to keep my full-time employer happy prevented me from testing the changes sufficiently.

Lee, N5LYT

46. Re: [BBSSIG:348] BBS Software Preference

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 1995 11:56:11 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199501171956.LAA17641@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>I would like to know your preferences in BBS software and why. We are
>using MSYS, and it seems a little "klunky". I havn't had much experience
>with the others, and don't have time to set each one up and learn it just
>to compare it to the others.
>

I use AA4RE BBS software here at N6EEG. Roys current offering is Version 2.13R, the previous final release 2.12 didn't seem very reliable, but 2.13 seems to have taken care of that problem and added some very desirable features as well.

A partial list of features that come to mind;

- * Will run in REAL or Protected Mode utilizing all available memory.
- * New Multi-Forwarding features allow several independant forwarding sessions to occur simultaneously on the same or different ports.
- * When forwarding to another compatible BBS, it will start the session by sending up to 4 bids at once, the destination BBS responds with a series of OK or NO's, thus eliminating a lot of time consuming short exchanges that may have to rattle through a long series of nodes. Afterwards, it continues to solicit OK/NO's so that it always has a cue of several messages that it can stream into the channel without having to wait for roundtrip responses. (sounds complicated, but works REALLY GOOD!) Appends a checksum to these messages for further data integrity testing.
- * AA4RE BBS has a very extensive and flexible message search facility that allows a sysop to act on messages in various ways based on almost any combination of size/age/bid/@BBS/title/originator/user_class/etc....limited by the creativity of the sysop.
- * Forwarding tables handle bulletin distributions omitting destinations when they already appear in the message header. Routing for P&T is flexible and straight forward (no pun), allowing multiple paths and backup paths that are enabled when a message has not been moved in a specified number of hours.
- * Permits use of passwords for both sysop and users. Can be configured to

hold for sysop review, messages originated without password authentication, while passing authenticated messages without delay.

- * Accommodates Telephone modem access for both users and sysops.
- * A library of 3rd party add-ons handle most of what it doesn't do by itself.

Since I have not had experience with other BBS programs, I cannot say which of these features is unique to AA4RE, but I keep hearing others say that they cannot do this or cannot do that (when I can !).

I'm told that MSYS was used here before my time, but was replaced with AA4RE several years ago.

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

47. Re: [BBSSIG:380] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 95 15:11:05 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501172111.AA25674@tomcat1.tbe.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

[snip]
> I use AA4RE BBS software here at N6EEG. Roys current offering is Version
> 2.13R, the previous final release 2.12 didn't seem very reliable, but 2.13
> seems to have taken care of that problem and added some very desirable
> features as well.
[snip]

What is the home anonymous ftp site for AA4RE's PBBS? We also run AA4RE, have been getting it from ftp.ucsd.edu:/hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming, and have been very happy with the April 19, 1994 version there. Think its 2.12R, or 21R.

73,

--

David Kelly, N4HHE, n4hhe@amsat.org, dkelly@nebula.tbe.com

With every passing hour our solar system comes forty-three thousand miles closer to globular cluster M13 in the constellation Hercules, and still there are some misfits who continue to insist that there is no such thing as progress.

-- Ransom K. Ferm

48. RE: [BBSSIG:381] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 1995 17:25:12 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950117172512.4343@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

For AA4RE software, anonymous ftp to kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov and look in the pub/hamradio/AA4RE directory.

49. Re: [BBSSIG:382] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 95 16:56:12 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501172256.AA26185@tomcat1.tbe.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> For AA4RE software, anonymous ftp to kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov and look in the
> pub/hamradio/AA4RE directory.

Thank you. Just checked there and did not find any newer version than is posted at ftp.ucsd.edu:/hamradio/packet/aa4re. An earlier posting hinted that version 2.13 was available and more reliable than the 2.12 betas. We are currently using bb21r with great success. Recently the primary sysop left town for a month. System stayed up the whole time and about 5,000 message went thru its 5 radios. I SAY it stayed up the whole time, but its unusual for power not to flicker sometime during the month, so I really mean, "nobody pressed reset".

73,

--
David Kelly, N4HHE, n4hhe@amsat.org, dkelly@nebula.tbe.com

With every passing hour our solar system comes forty-three thousand
miles closer to globular cluster M13 in the constellation Hercules, and
still there are some misfits who continue to insist that there is no
such thing as progress.
-- Ransom K. Ferm

50. AA4RE BBS

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 95 22:22:27 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rUTp0-00010JC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Latest version is 2.1R dated last April. In May, I picked up a second
job and so have been a bit busy.

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

51. Re: [BBSSIG:384] AA4RE BBS

From: Gregory.R.Laborde@jpl.nasa.gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 08:13:54 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501181613.AB24945@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?

-Greg

--
Gregory R. LaBorde - KD6MSM | Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
Jet Propulsion Laboratory | AMPRNet : kd6msm@jpl-gw.w6vio.ampr.org
Systems Engineering - Galileo OET | Packet : KD6MSM@W6VIO.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
M/S 264-805 4800 Oak Grove Drive | Phone : (818) 393-1107
Pasadena, CA 91109 |

52. Re: [BBSSIG:385] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 10:46:08 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501181646.AA03135@tomcat1.tbe.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?
>
> -Greg

What? Tell me more! Are you asking if it still exists? Do you have
details on how to subscribe?

73,
--
David Kelly, N4HHE, n4hhe@amsat.org, dkelly@nebula.tbe.com

We are all agreed that your theory is crazy. The question which
divides us is whether it is crazy enough to have a chance of being
correct. My own feeling is that it is not crazy enough.
-- Niels Bohr

53. Re: [BBSSIG:386] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: Gregory.R.Laborde@jpl.nasa.gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 09:43:13 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501181743.AB26979@kilroy.Jpl.Nasa.Gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>> Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?

>What? Tell me more! Are you asking if it still exists? Do you have
>details on how to subscribe?

You know, I wish *I* knew how to subscribe, but I have not been able to

find out either.

-Greg

--

Gregory R. LaBorde - KD6MSM	Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
Jet Propulsion Laboratory	AMPRNet : kd6msm@jpl-gw.w6vio.ampr.org
Systems Engineering - Galileo OET	Packet : KD6MSM@W6VIO.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
M/S 264-805 4800 Oak Grove Drive	Phone : (818) 393-1107
Pasadena, CA 91109	

54. RE: [BBSSIG:383] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 11:58:44 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950118115844.6a58@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Unfortunately, the chap that mentioned bb2.13 really meant to say that bb2.1r is the current beta version of what eventually will become 2.13. See Roy's earlier post.

73, Ed, K1BYV

55. RE: [BBSSIG:385] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 12:05:53 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950118120553.6a58@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Is the list still active? I tried long ago to change my e-mail address, but got confirmation or reply. Maybe Roy can be of help as to whether it is still valid or defunct.

- Ed

56. Re: [BBSSIG:386] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 10:31:38 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199501181832.KAA08670@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>> Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?
>>
>> -Greg
>
>What? Tell me more! Are you asking if it still exists? Do you have
>details on how to subscribe?
>

Yes, it still exists, but it is VERY quiet. I've been on it for about 6 months and have received no more than 3 or 4 postings.

To subscribe, send a msg to:
aa4re-request@matsci2.uncwil.edu

text should say;
subscribe aa4re your.EMail.Addr

example
subscribe aa4re MPFahmie@lbl.gov

If this doesn't work, drop a note to;
spell@seq.uncwil.edu

Postings are addressed to aa4re@mars.cms.uncwil.edu .

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

57. Re: [BBSSIG:385] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 15:48:36 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199501182148.PAA14984@allanon.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> >Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>
> Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?
>
> -Greg
Its been quiet but I got a msg today.

Barry wa0rjt

58. Re: [BBSSIG:348] BBS Software Preference

From: stewart@kepler.IFA.Hawaii.Edu (Christopher Stewart)
Date: Thu, 19 Jan 95 14:56:38 HST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501200056.AA01326@kepler.ifa.hawaii.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Using F6FBB software here for PBBS for the following...
Documentation actually makes sense.
Does automatic compression of files for forwarding.
Users really like it here.
Had been using Roserver and tried Msys and two other that I forget the names of. F6FBB wins out right now. Not to say we wouldnt try or change to another one in the future. However Documentation that is clear is critical to us as we have no regular sysop. When a new thing happens, someone new may have to figure out what changes to make. Chris/AH6GG.

59. Re: [BBSSIG:392] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: "Brian Ellse" <BRIANE@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za>
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 1995 08:07:57 GMT+200
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <1F8F0CC1538@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Greetings from South Africa,

Here on the tip of Africa, F6FBB is used at about 90% of the BBS sites. It is popular with the users as it supports TPK and allows them to send and receive their mail in compressed mode, thus ensuring a degree of privacy for SP mail. It also allows the BBS to forward to them, at their request, without having to place them in the FORWARD.SYS file.

I am no computer boffin, but I managed to get my F6FBB running within 24hrs of getting the software, as the documentation (long!) is very good.

Well thats my 2 cents worth.

Best regards

Brian Ellse
E-Mail: H14763@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za Telephone: xx27-31-7011201
 BRIANE@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za Tele Fax: xx27-31-7018315
 briane@goofy.iaccess.za
P-Mail: h14763/PTNNFS01
Packet: ZR5DTS@ZS0WTE.KZN.ZAF.AF

60. WP help please....

From: Brian Ellse <briane@iaccess.za>
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 1995 12:21:14 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9501201235.A18800-0100000@goofy.iaccess.za>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

Running F6FBB, have only been using H route. Now want to fire up White Pages using internal server of F6FBB. Have run HR2WP which created a MAIL.WP file. Still cannot get WP to run. If I type IL <callsign>, I get error message "IL wrong command".

Please can somebody tell me in simple steps what I must do to get WP to run.

Many thanks
Brian ZR5DTS @ ZS0WTE.KZN.ZAF.AF (SysOp: Highway BBS)

61. Re: [BBSSIG:394] WP help please....

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 1995 12:04:11 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950120115859.17335C-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 20 Jan 1995, Brian Ellse wrote:

> Hi All,
>
> Running F6FBB, have only been using H route. Now want to fire up White
> Pages using internal server of F6FBB. Have run HR2WP which created a
> MAIL.WP file. Still cannot get WP to run. If I type IL <callsign>, I get
> error message "IL wrong command".

Brian, you MUST!!! be using high memory with FBB set in init.srv
and you un-rem a call in the main batch file that calls the wp cleanup
and fix program. Then in init.srv add at least 1 call to the list of bbs
you want to send WP mail with. That I think does it Brian. It IS very
well spelled out in the FBB manual...you do have that printed out don't
you...:-)

>
> Please can somebody tell me in simple steps what I must do to get WP to run.
>
> Many thanks
> Brian ZR5DTS @ ZS0WTE.KZN.ZAF.AF (SysOp: Highway BBS)
>

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

62. Re: [BBSSIG:383] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 95 7:46:42 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501211346.AA166152@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In the 'for what it's worth' department, re: AA4RE's stability (the
software's stability, not Roy's!), when I added more memory to the
computer that I use for AA4RE, the occassional lockups have seemed to
disappear. System using 6 Meg of RAM. Yes, 4 Meg basically sits there
doing nothing, but with BPQ and a bunch of ports, there must be some
processes that grab a little extra memory now and then that would put
things in the jackpot before. The lesson I've learned is that for any
BBS software (just like any other software), have plenty of memory in
the machine to avoid problems.

Dave W05H

63. Help???

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 1995 18:37:34 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098ACE6.858BB1C0.31209@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,
I am new to the listserv thing and do not know if I am doing this correctly.
I think that this is the address to post messages to the list. If this is
now the correct address would someone please let me know before I embarrass
myself any further and annoy everyone. If I am doing this correctly I would
also appreciate knowing.

Jeff KE4ARH@KE4ARH.#SBY.MD.USA.NOAM
JXS2151@SAE.SSU.UMD.EDU

64. Re: [BBSSIG:397] Help???

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 95 19:11:20 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501220111.AA106404@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

You're coming through loud and clear!

Dave W05H

PS: Welcome to the SIG

65. OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 22 Jan 95 0:32:31 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501220632.AA109965@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Is anyone using OS/2, BPQ and packet BBS software? I can get serial ports to 'talk' under this conglomeration (BPQ and the BBS in a DOS session), but can't get DRSI cards to function. They are on IRQ 7. Could this be a contributing factor? OS/2 needs IRQ 7 for LPT1 and can't have anything else using that interrupt, according to the on-line docs.

If you've got OS/2 and a packet bbs (with DRSI cards) running, please share your config with me and the rest of the SIG.

Thanks, in anticipation de Dave W05H

66. Re: [BBSSIG:399] OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sun, 22 Jan 1995 08:09:11 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950122080010.10388A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 22 Jan 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

> Is anyone using OS/2, BPQ and packet BBS software? I can get serial
> ports to 'talk' under this conglomeration (BPQ and the BBS in a DOS
> session), but can't get DRSI cards to function. They are on IRQ 7.
> Could this be a contributing factor? OS/2 needs IRQ 7 for LPT1 and
> can't have anything else using that interrupt, according to the on-line
> docs.

That is THE big problem with OS/2 Dave. It automatically sets up the com ports and uses EVERY hardware interrupt port in the computer. I just set the com port "not used" in Windows and it's happy.

I use IRQ 5 on my DRSI card Dave and you might try that one. Otherwise it's search that GIANT config.sys for com port calls and then re-do them in your DOS window to free an IRQ.

>
> If you've got OS/2 and a packet bbs (with DRSI cards) running, please
> share your config with me and the rest of the SIG.
>
> Thanks, in anticipation de Dave W05H
>

I would love to run OS/2, and have the software. Alas it will not run on this IBM machine...hi

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

67. RE: [BBSSIG:399] OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
Date: Sun, 22 Jan 1995 10:40:26 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098AD6D.088E3E40.32206@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

DRSI cards can be reconfigured to operate on other IRQ's by changing the DIP switches. This may help if Win requires IRQ7 for LPT1.

Jeff KE4ARH

68. Re: [BBSSIG:400] Re: OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 22 Jan 95 13:54:40 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501221954.AA115097@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks, Karl, for your reply.

Here's more info that might be worth someone's time that I picked up today while going deeper into debt at CompUSA on stuff for the BBS:

the fellow I trust there advised running Novell (formerly DR) DOS. The latest version will run 32-bit preemptive multi-tasking. I can run the BBS and task-switch to another session and run whatever I want for the housekeeping (renaming files, doing something else with the computer, etc.). He has made comparisons to running several apps under Windows+MS DOS and reports much improved performance. Only downside is that you won't have a windowed environment (not such a big deal for a bbs) and that if you load Windows in a separate session, it will have to be in Standard instead of Enhanced mode (probably not such a big deal).

Alas, the store was out of stock of Novell Dos. Wonder if anyone else has any war stories on this.

I think we could collect enough collective experience among the sysops on board to make a compendium of stuff for the next revision of the BBS Sysops Guide and/or for the PSR.

At any rate, the clone I built from motherboard on up is working and has just about exactly what I wanted in it (instead of buying someone else's idea of what I should have in a computer). If anyone is thinking of building a clone but on the fence, I would say give it a try. Most hams with some experience making things work ought to have no trouble putting together a decent system. It's fun and will save you some bucks while you get exactly what you need for the bbs (such as high speed serial ports, and plenty of them; plenty of expansion slots; suitable enclosure; no unwanted software). Your budget will be impacted to the degree you can scrounge, scavenge from other machines you have, and your patience for deals and sidewalk sales.

Dave W05H

69. Re: [BBSSIG:401] RE: OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 22 Jan 95 13:57:40 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501221957.AA115129@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>

> DRSI cards can be reconfigured to operate on other IRQ's by changing
> the DIP switches. This may help if Win requires IRQ7 for LPT1.

>

> Jeff KE4ARH

>

Just to make sure there's full understanding, it's OS/2 that requires IRQ 7. Looks more like I can't run the kind of BBS under OS/2 that I am currently running, so another scheme to multi-task will have to be found. See the previous msg re: Novell DOS.

Dave W05H

70. [BBSSIG:371] Mail loops and other such stuff

From: n5lyt@tapr.org (N5lyt@tapr.org)
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 23:00:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <95012216055238@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
From: n5lyt@tapr.org
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 23:00 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:371] Mail loops and other such stuff

As I'm sure all of you have noticed we have been experiencing mail loops on BBSSIG and NETSIG. We are trying to locate the culprit. Please bear with us.

71. [BBSSIG:382] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: edsadow@ids.net (Edsadow@ids.net)
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 1995 16:31:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055449@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 95 16:31 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:382] Re: BBS Software Preference

For AA4RE software, anonymous ftp to kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov and look in the pub/hamradio/AA4RE directory.

72. [BBSSIG:384] AA4RE BBS

From: enge@almaden.ibm.com (Enge@almaden.ibm.com)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 00:32:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055553@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 00:32 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:384] AA4RE BBS

Latest version is 2.1R dated last April. In May, I picked up a second job and so have been a bit busy.

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

73. [BBSSIG:375] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: dave.wolf@phx-az.com (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 1995 23:45:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055343@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 95 23:45 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:375] Re: BBS Software Preference

For what it's worth, I use AA4RE for the user board and FBB for the BBS the bbs forwarding board.

Will add a NOS system eventually.

Dave W05H

74. Loops

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 1995 02:55:19 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055241@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

My system just recently began servicing a new domain, and unfortunately unbeknownst to me, there was a problem with the spooler and it was regenerating anything coming in from Listservs. This problem has been corrected and I offer my appologies for any inconvenience that this may have caused to your list.

Daniel J. Meredith

75. [BBSSIG:389] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: edsadow@ids.net (Edsadow@ids.net)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 12:10:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055660@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 12:10 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:389] Re: AA4RE BBS

Is the list still active? I tried long ago to change my e-mail address, but got confirmation or reply. Maybe Roy can be of help as to whether it is still valid or defunct.

- Ed

76. [BBSSIG:391] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: barry@ia.net (Barry@ia.net)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 15:58:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055659@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 15:58 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:391] Re: AA4RE BBS

>
> >Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>
> Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?
>
> -Greg
Its been quiet but I got a msg today.

Barry wa0rjt

77. [BBSSIG:388] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: edsadow@ids.net (Edsadow@ids.net)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 12:09:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055657@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 12:09 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:388] Re: BBS Software Preference

Unfortunately, the chap that mentioned bb2.13 really meant to say that bb2.1r is the current beta version of what eventually will become 2.13. See Roy's earlier post.

73, Ed, K1BYV

78. [BBSSIG:379] Lost messages on TAPR mailing lists

From: lee.ziegenhals@phx-az.com (Lee Ziegenhals)
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 1995 10:20:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055450@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: lcz@datapoint.com (Lee Ziegenhals)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 95 10:20 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:379] Lost messages on TAPR mailing lists

We apologize for any lost mail to this mailing list during the past 24 hours. We have been making changes to the software. Doing this while trying to keep my full-time employer happy prevented me from testing the changes sufficiently.

Lee, NSLYT

79. [BBSSIG:376] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: dave.wolf@phx-az.com (Dave Wolf)
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 1995 00:06:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055344@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 95 00:06 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:376] Re: BBS Software Preference

Another comment on FBB--

I use it for BBS forwarding on an XT and the thing runs for weeks and weeks and only shuts down when I decide to shut it down to rework the files, defrag the disk drive.

Dave

80. Loops

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 1995 02:55:19 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055346@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

My system just recently began servicing a new domain, and unfortunately unbeknownst to me, there was a problem with the spooler and it was regenerating anything coming in from Listservs. This problem has been corrected and I offer my appologies for any inconvenience that this may have caused to your list.

Daniel J. Meredith
Sysadmin for @PHX-AZ.COM and @AZNETIG.STAT.COM

81. Loops

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 1995 02:55:19 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055240@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

My system just recently began servicing a new domain, and unfortunately unbeknownst to me, there was a problem with the spooler and it was regenerating anything coming in from Listservs. This problem has been corrected and I offer my appologies for any inconvenience that this may have caused to your list.

Daniel J. Meredith
Sysadmin for @PHX-AZ.COM and @AZNETIG.STAT.COM

82. [BBSSIG:394] WP help please....

From: briane@iaccess.za (Briane@iaccess.za)
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 1995 04:30:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055763@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Brian Ellse <briane@iaccess.za>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 95 04:30 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:394] WP help please....

Hi All,

Running F6FBB, have only been using H route. Now want to fire up White Pages using internal server of F6FBB. Have run HR2WP which created a MAIL.WP file. Still cannot get WP to run. If I type IL <callsign>, I get error message "IL wrong command".

Please can somebody tell me in simple steps what I must do to get WP to run.

Many thanks
Brian ZR5DTS @ ZS0WTE.KZN.ZAF.AF (SysOp: Highway BBS)

83. [BBSSIG:385] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: gregory.r.laborde@phx-az.com (Gregory R. Laborde)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 10:21:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501221605554@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Gregory.R.Laborde@jpl.nasa.gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 10:21 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:385] Re: AA4RE BBS

>Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?

-Greg

--

Gregory R. LaBorde - KD6MSM	Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
Jet Propulsion Laboratory	AMPRNet : kd6msm@jpl-gw.w6vio.ampr.org
Systems Engineering - Galileo OET	Packet : KD6MSM@W6VIO.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
M/S 264-805 4800 Oak Grove Drive	Phone : (818) 393-1107
Pasadena, CA 91109	

84. [BBSSIG:386] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: david.kelly@phx-az.com (David Kelly)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 11:04:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501221605555@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 11:04 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:386] Re: AA4RE BBS

> Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?

>

> -Greg

What? Tell me more! Are you asking if it still exists? Do you have details on how to subscribe?

73,

--

David Kelly, N4HHE, n4hhe@amsat.org, dkelly@nebula.tbe.com

We are all agreed that your theory is crazy. The question which divides us is whether it is crazy enough to have a chance of being correct. My own feeling is that it is not crazy enough.

-- Niels Bohr

85. [BBSSIG:369] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us)
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 22:48:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055134@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 22:48 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:369] Re: BBS Software Preference

On Sat, 14 Jan 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> Marvin, out west we have all changed to the F6FBB software IF we
> have a 386 or better computer. I recommend the latest W0RLI software with
> DeskVue for any using a 286 machine. But must say the FBB software will
> run on almost any computer.

Well, I ran FBB for two years on an XT with no real problem. It has run on a 286 VERY well for over a year now. It is quite fast on the 286, and even faster on the 386-40.

86. [BBSSIG:387] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: gregory.r.laborde@phx-az.com (Gregory R. Laborde)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 11:47:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055656@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Gregory.R.Laborde@jpl.nasa.gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 11:47 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:387] Re: AA4RE BBS

>> Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?

>What? Tell me more! Are you asking if it still exists? Do you have
>details on how to subscribe?

You know, I wish *I* knew how to subscribe, but I have not been able to
find out either.

-Greg

--

Gregory R. LaBorde - KD6MSM	Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
Jet Propulsion Laboratory	AMPRNet : kd6msm@jpl-gw.w6vio.ampr.org
Systems Engineering - Galileo OET	Packet : KD6MSM@W6VIO.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
M/S 264-805 4800 Oak Grove Drive	Phone : (818) 393-1107
Pasadena, CA 91109	

87. [BBSSIG:374] Re: headers

From: dave.wolf@phx-az.com (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 1995 23:31:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055345@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 95 23:31 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:374] Re: headers

How do sysops feel about a trouble report of a long delay in the transit
of a message?

Usually frustrated.

Unfortunately, unless you are dealing with a local or regional problem
(and the region is nearby), it's hard to get all of the players notified
so that they can look at their forwarding dynamics.

If I am made aware of something within the state of Texas, I can send
some e-mail or call up the parties since I personally know most of them.
If it is out of state, it's hard to recommend solutions since one
doesn't know anything about how forwarding is organized outside of one's
region.

It doesn't irritate me, if that's what you're wondering. Just
frustrates me.

Dave W05H

88. [BBSSIG:377] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org (Kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org)
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 1995 13:43:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055447@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Mon, 16 Jan 95 13:43 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:377] Re: BBS Software Preference

Hi Marvin

I currently use JNOS-1.08dff-WA3DSP
BUT for a local BBS i use offair and tied to JNOS
I use AA4RE BBS seems more stable than MSYS and good sysop features
as a 2nd Place choice PRMBS by KA2BQE

Not to say 1 is the best just a preference

73 Mike Hope this helps

```
*****
Amprnet: KB2HJC@NX2B.AMPR.ORG      AX.25: KB2HJC@WA2NDV.NY.USA.NOAM
Email: COMPUSERVE 75550,130      Internet: 75550.130@compuserve.com
Voice: 145.110 Rpt. PL 3B      Phone: 609-886-8792
      TCP/IP-Netrom: [44.65.32.24] IPHJC:KB2HJC-8
*****
```

89. [BBSSIG:390] Re: AA4RE BBS

From: mike.fahmie@phx-az.com (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 1995 12:49:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055658@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Wed, 18 Jan 95 12:49 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:390] Re: AA4RE BBS

>> Does anyone still get the AA4RE mailing list from mars.cms.uncwil.edu?
>>
>> -Greg
>
>What? Tell me more! Are you asking if it still exists? Do you have
>details on how to subscribe?
>

Yes, it still exists, but it is VERY quiet. I've been on it for about 6
months and have received no more than 3 or 4 postings.

To subscribe, send a msg to:
aa4re-request@matsci2.uncwil.edu

text should say;
subscribe aa4re your.EMail.Addr

example
subscribe aa4re MPFahmie@lbl.gov

If this doesn't work, drop a note to;
spell@seq.uncwil.edu

Postings are addressed to aa4re@mars.cms.uncwil.edu .

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

90. [BBSSIG:393] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: briane@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za (Briane@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za)
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 1995 00:12:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055762@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: "Brian Ellse" <BRIANE@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 95 00:12 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:393] Re: BBS Software Preference

Greetings from South Africa,

Here on the tip of Africa, F6FBB is used at about 90% of the BBS
sites. It is popular with the users as it supports TPK and allows
them to send and receive their mail in compressed mode, thus ensuring
a degree of privacy for SP mail. It also allows the BBS to forward to
them, at their request, without having to place them in the
FORWARD.SYS file.

I am no computer boffin, but I managed to get my F6FBB running within
24hrs of getting the software, as the documentation (long!) is very
good.

Well thats my 2 cents worth.

Best regards

Brian Ellse

E-Mail: H14763@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za

BRIANE@ptnnfs01.eskom.co.za

briane@goofy.iaccess.za

P-Mail: h14763/PTNNFS01

Packet: ZR5DTS@ZS0WTE.KZN.ZAF.AF

Telephone: xx27-31-7011201

Tele Fax: xx27-31-7018315

91. [BBSSIG:381] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: david.kelly@phx-az.com (David Kelly)

Date: Tue, 17 Jan 1995 15:26:00 GMT

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <95012216055451@phx-az.com>

Rendered body type: text/plain

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Date: Tue, 17 Jan 95 15:26 CST

Subject: [BBSSIG:381] Re: BBS Software Preference

[snip]

> I use AA4RE BBS software here at N6EEG. Roys current offering is Version
> 2.13R, the previous final release 2.12 didn't seem very reliable, but 2.13
> seems to have taken care of that problem and added some very desirable
> features as well.

[snip]

What is the home anonymous ftp site for AA4RE's PBBS? We also run AA4RE,
have been getting it from ftp.ucsd.edu:/hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming,
and have been very happy with the April 19, 1994 version there. Think its
2.12R, or 21R.

73,

--

David Kelly, N4HHE, n4hhe@amsat.org, dkelly@nebula.tbe.com

With every passing hour our solar system comes forty-three thousand
miles closer to globular cluster M13 in the constellation Hercules, and
still there are some misfits who continue to insist that there is no
such thing as progress.

-- Ransom K. Ferm

92. [BBSSIG:370] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu (Wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu)

Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 22:48:00 GMT

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <95012216055135@phx-az.com>

Rendered body type: text/plain

From: "William L. Barnes" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 22:48 CST

Subject: [BBSSIG:370] Re: BBS Software Preference

On Fri, 13 Jan 1995, Marvin Munster x5388 wrote:

> Maybe you could list the one you are using and 3 or 4 bullets under it as
> to it's key features and why it was chosen. Maybe why one is better than
> another.

CBBS 7.30

Just a PBBS, no "extra" features that you don't want. If you want them, use
other programs to add it on.

Small and fast! runs great in a 128k window on desqview. Plus it is the
quickest I've found so far. Althought, WORLI 18.01 is ver close in speed.

Very configurable, and relatively simple to setup... if you read the docs
first...

Hope this helps...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

93. [BBSSIG:398] Re: Help???

From: dave.wolf@phx-az.com (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 1995 19:27:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055868@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 95 19:27 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:398] Re: Help???

You're coming through loud and clear!

Dave W05H

PS: Welcome to the SIG

94. [BBSSIG:383] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: david.kelly@phx-az.com (David Kelly)
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 1995 22:45:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055552@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 95 22:45 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:383] Re: BBS Software Preference

> For AA4RE software, anonymous ftp to kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov and look in the
> pub/hamradio/AA4RE directory.

Thank you. Just checked there and did not find any newer version than is posted at ftp.ucsd.edu/hamradio/packet/aa4re. An earlier posting hinted that version 2.13 was available and more reliable than the 2.12 betas. We are currently using bb21r with great success. Recently the primary sysop left town for a month. System stayed up the whole time and about 5,000 message went thru its 5 radios. I SAY it stayed up the whole time, but its unusual for power not to flicker sometime during the month, so I really mean, "nobody pressed reset".

73,

--

David Kelly, N4HHE, n4hhe@amsat.org, dkelly@nebula.tbe.com

With every passing hour our solar system comes forty-three thousand miles closer to globular cluster M13 in the constellation Hercules, and still there are some misfits who continue to insist that there is no such thing as progress.

-- Ransom K. Ferm

95. [BBSSIG:397] Help???

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu (Jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu)
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 1995 17:44:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055867@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 95 17:44 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:397] Help???

Hi All,

I am new to the listserv thing an do not know if I am doing this correctly. I think that this is the address to post messages to the list. If this is now the correct address would someone please let me know before I embarrass myself any further and annoy everyone. If I am doing this correctly I would also appreciate knowing.

96. [BBSSIG:392] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: christopher.stewart@phx-az.com (Christopher Stewart)
Date: Thu, 19 Jan 1995 22:39:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055761@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: stewart@kepler.IFA.Hawaii.Edu (Christopher Stewart)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 19 Jan 95 22:39 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:392] Re: BBS Software Preference

Using F6FBB software here for PBBS for the following...
Documentation actually makes sense.
Does automatic compression of files for forwarding.
Users really like it here.
Had been using Roserver and tried Msys and two other that I forget the names of. F6FBB wins out right now. Not to say we wouldn't try or change to another one in the future. However Documentation that is clear is critical to us as we have no regular sysop. When a new thing happens, someone new may have to figure out what changes to make. Chris/AH6GG.

97. [BBSSIG:396] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: dave.wolf@phx-az.com (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 1995 07:52:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055866@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 21 Jan 95 07:52 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:396] Re: BBS Software Preference

In the 'for what it's worth' department, re: AA4RE's stability (the software's stability, not Roy's!), when I added more memory to the computer that I use for AA4RE, the occasional lockups have seemed to disappear. System using 6 Meg of RAM. Yes, 4 Meg basically sits there doing nothing, but with BPQ and a bunch of ports, there must be some processes that grab a little extra memory now and then that would put things in the jackpot before. The lesson I've learned is that for any BBS software (just like any other software), have plenty of memory in the machine to avoid problems.

Dave W05H

98. [BBSSIG:372] Re: Message Header Research

From: n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil (N7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil)
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 23:00:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055239@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 23:00 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:372] Re: Message Header Research

Hmmm, yes I too noticed where Karl, K5DI advertised a wife for sale. I thought the price (considering all the time and investment involved) was reasonable.

Well, at this point and time Karl, we are not sure that any one bulletin is read by anyone and until some sort of analysis is done, we will never know. In the broadcast industry it's common to conduct surveys to find out viewer/listener interests. Based on these findings the industry may modify their offerings. We don't see protests of censorship when this is done. In a similar vein newspapers don't publish every letter that's submitted to them. Is this censorship anymore than a sysop making a decision to not forward certain bulletin topics?

As far as user education for the present BBS system, this is difficult and time consuming if the sysop is to instruct each and every new user. It would be nice if he could, but it probably be more practical if someone would develop a series of new user tutorials and have them

included in each new software release. That way all new users would receive a "standard" exposure to BBS operation. I suggest this be done with the releases rather than by individual sysops, to ensure it be consistently available.

On another note, am I the ONLY one receiving multiple copies of TAPRSIG messages? If not, perhaps someone is changing the BIDs? :-(

73 de Jack

99. [BBSSIG:367] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: k5di@kazak.nmsu.edu (K5di@kazak.nmsu.edu)
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 18:38:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055136@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 18:38 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:367] Re: BBS Software Preference

On Fri, 13 Jan 1995, Marvin Munster x5388 wrote:

> I would like to know your preferences in BBS software and why. We are
> using MSYS, and it seems a little "klunky". I havn't had much experience
> with the others, and don't have time to set each one up and learn it just
> to compare it to the others.

Marvin, out west we have all changed to the F6FBB software IF we have a 386 or better computer. I recommend the latest W0RLI software with DeskVue for any using a 286 machine. But must say the FBB software will run on almost any computer.

>
> Maybe you could list the one you are using and 3 or 4 bullets under it as
> to it's key features and why it was chosen. Maybe why one is better than
> another.
>
> Thanks.
>
> Marvin - WB6PKK
> mmunster@qualcomm.com
>
>
>

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

100. [BBSSIG:373] BPQ, FBB, xNOS, OS/2 Help Needed

From: dale.l.puckett@phx-az.com (Dale L. Puckett)
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 1995 20:36:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055242@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sun, 15 Jan 95 20:36 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:373] BPQ, FBB, xNOS, OS/2 Help Needed

Has anyone managed to make the BPQ switch work with the FBB BBS and a NOS like TNOS (separately or at the same time). I need help configuring my system under OS/2. All help will be appreciated.

I managed to configure the BPQCFG.TXT file and turn it into BPQCFG.BIN. I can launch BPQCODE in a DOS window, execute the BPQHTNC2.EXE program and then talk to the switch with the PAC4 program that comes in the BPQ.ZIP

file ... all in the same OS/2 DOS session.

However, I do not have comms with the radio ports. I tried to keep it simple at first and used the same port address and interrupt level I am successfully using with TNOS. Later, I hope to have someone coming into the switch be able to connect to an FBB BBS by typing BBS, or the TNOS gateway by typing NOS.

I have an STB-4 hardware card and use the SIO drivers for OS/2. I have a six port version. I hope to also use a recently purchased internal modem to connect an internet gateway via TNOS.

If anyone out there has something similar running, I would your advise is welcome. If you could mail your config files to me ... or post them where I can FTP them that would be great!

I need to know the sequence for launching all this also. For example. Do I need to keep BPQCODE and FBB running in the same OS/2 DOS session. How can I get the two to talk to TNOS in another OS/2 DOS session.

Please help.

73 de Dale

73 de Dale
INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam
Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)

101. [BBSSIG:395] Re: WP help please....

From: k5di@kazak.nmsu.edu (K5di@kazak.nmsu.edu)
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 1995 13:18:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055764@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Fri, 20 Jan 95 13:18 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:395] Re: WP help please....

On Fri, 20 Jan 1995, Brian Ellse wrote:

> Hi All,
>
> Running F6FBB, have only been using H route. Now want to fire up White
> Pages using internal server of F6FBB. Have run HR2WP which created a
> MAIL.WP file. Still cannot get WP to run. If I type IL <callsign>, I get
> error message "IL wrong command".

Brian, you MUST!!! be using high memory with FBB set in init.srv and you un-rem a call in the main batch file that calls the wp cleanup and fix program. Then in init.srv add at least 1 call to the list of bbs you want to send WP mail with. That I think does it Brian. It IS very well spelled out in the FBB manual...you do have that printed out don't you...:-)

>
> Please can somebody tell me in simple steps what I must do to get WP to run.
>
> Many thanks
> Brian ZR5DTS @ ZS0WTE.KZN.ZAF.AF (SysOp: Highway BBS)
>

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

102. [BBSSIG:380] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: mike.fahmie@phx-az.com (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 1995 14:12:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055448@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Tue, 17 Jan 95 14:12 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:380] Re: BBS Software Preference

>I would like to know your preferences in BBS software and why. We are
>using MSYS, and it seems a little "klunky". I havn't had much experience
>with the others, and don't have time to set each one up and learn it just
>to compare it to the others.
>

I use AA4RE BBS software here at N6EEG. Roys current offering is Version 2.13R, the previous final release 2.12 didn't seem very reliable, but 2.13 seems to have taken care of that problem and added some very desirable features as well.

A partial list of features that come to mind;

- * Will run in REAL or Protected Mode utilizing all available memory.
- * New Multi-Forwarding features allow several independant forwarding sessions to occur simultaneously on the same or different ports.
- * When forwarding to another compatible BBS, it will start the session by sending up to 4 bids at once, the destination BBS responds with a series of OK or NO's, thus eliminating a lot of time consuming short exchanges that may have to rattle through a long series of nodes. Afterwards, it continues to solicit OK/NO's so that it always has a cue of several messages that it can stream into the channel without having to wait for roundtrip responses. (sounds complicated, but works REALLY GOOD!) Appends a checksum to these messages for further data integrity testing.
- * AA4RE BBS has a very extensive and flexible message search facility that allows a sysop to act on messages in various ways based on almost any combination of size/age/bid/@BBS/title/originator/user_class/etc....limited by the creativity of the sysop.
- * Forwarding tables handle bulletin distributions omitting destinations when they already appear in the message header. Routing for P&T is flexible and straight forward (no pun), allowing multiple paths and backup paths that are enabled when a message has not been moved in a specified number of hours.
- * Permits use of passwords for both sysop and users. Can be configured to hold for sysop review, messages originated without password authentication, while passing authenticated messages without delay.
- * Accomodates Telephone modem access for both users and sysops.
- * A library of 3rd party add-ons handle most of what it doesn't do by itself.

Since I have not had experience with other BBS programs, I cannot say which of these features is unique to AA4RE, but I keep hearing others say that they cannot do this or cannot do that (when I can !).

I'm told that MSYS was used here before my time, but was replaced with AA4RE several years ago.

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

103. [BBSSIG:368] Re: Message Header Research

From: hank.oredson@phx-az.com (Hank Oredson)
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 1995 20:05:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012216055033@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: hank.oredson@phx-az.com (Hank Oredson)
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 20:05 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:368] Re: Message Header Research

From: hank.oredson@phx-az.com (Hank Oredson)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Sat, 14 Jan 95 09:48 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:358] Re: Message Header Research

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 95 15:37 CST
Subject: [BBSSIG:339] Re: Message Header Research

On Jan 12, 2:59pm, Greg Jones wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:337] Re: Message Header Research
> According to Hank Oredson:
> > I run a similar analysis from time to time, on the messages currently
> > resident on my system. Typically this is 1200-1500 messages representing
> > about a three day average message load. The total number of messages
> > for January will be roughly 12,000, but of course most are gone within
> > 24 hours. Could easily keep a running average of header vs. body size
> > sorted by any criteria of interest. However, all past samples have
> > tended to run about the same: roughly 20-25% of the data on average
> > is in the headers. Since headers compress "better" than body, the
> > actual channel load due to headers is some amount less than 20%.
> > This header/body ratio has remained roughly the same for the past
> > 3 or 4 years.
>
> Hank, in your case I will give you the process I am using and will let you
do
> the analysis for you station :-). Will use as a after case test.

Won't help if they are unix tools (perl scripts perhaps would, since
DOS perl is available).

> > Exporting the messages and analyzing the resulting export files would
> > be fairly simple. I suggest however that you do the work in DOS instead
> > of unix so that more folks can use the software you create.
>
> The beauty of UNIX. I don't plan to write any software for the analysis over
> 10 lines. Just use all the tools available for doing it.

I'm not going to move the data over to unix - it will be around
7-10 MB for a month worth. Suspect the same will be true for most
folks, just not worth moving the data over. The analysis will be
interesting though, and if the software was made available then
others can run it and do their own analysis.

My tools for the analysis are available of course, but they only
run under DOS ... would run under unix as well but the data is on
a DOS system ...

The other thing I was hinting about was the idea that the software that
moves the messages about might well create summary data that is more
interesting than an analysis of the raw message data. For example,
I keep a statistic on compressed vs. uncompressed data sizes. From
this information, and the connect data that is saved, it is simple to
derive time averaged channel use and other interesting statistics.

Another analysis I've found interesting is to analyze headers for
interhop delays between pairs of stations, and forwarding path information.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.ORG.U.S.A.NOAM

104. Digi-only connects?

From: dreamer@lhaven.UUmh.Ab.Ca (Lawrence The Dreamer Chen)
Date: Sun, 22 Jan 1995 19:18:46 -0500
To: f6fbb-list@stat.com, bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501230018.7mqv@lhaven.UUmh.Ab.Ca>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Is this list still alive? I haven't seen any traffic for sometime. I haven't seen anything over netsig and bbssig, but the listserver says I'm subscribed to those still.

Anyways, does anybody know of how to setup BPQ/FBB combination to only allow connections on a particular port to the BBS to come via a specific Digipeater? (IE: no direct connections allowed).

Why? Well, I have a port that I use to play with R0MIR....and while some people in other states have joked about trying to digipeat off of MIR to connect to my BBS, I won't discourage them from trying....I don't want locals using this port to connect directly into the BBS and interferr with the satellite people.

--

"Just a Crazy Engineer with an Amiga and an HP48sx" - The Dreamer
Email: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca or "Lawrence Chen" @ 1:134/3002
PHONE: +1 403 526 6019 FAX: +1 403 529 5102 CIS: 74200,2431
Praxis Society K12 BBS: +1 403 529 1610 Lunatic Haven: +1 403 526 6957
Packet: VE6LKC @ VE6PAQ.#SEAB.AB.CAN.NA
Coming Soon, Medicine Hat Community Network

105. loops is right

From: Fred.Peerenboom@bbs.dmapub.dma.org (Fred Peerenboom)
Date: Mon, 23 Jan 95 07:02:26 EST5EDT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <1995Jan23.070226.21273@dmapub.dma.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Hi All,
> My system just recently began servicing a new domain, and
> unfortunately unbeknownst to me, there was a problem with the spooler
> and it was regenerating anything coming in from Listservs. This problem
> has been corrected and I offer my appologies for any inconvenience that
> this may have caused to your list.
>
>
> Daniel J. Meredith
> Sysadmin for @PHX-AZ.COM and @AZNETIG.STAT.COM
this is about the 20th of this message that I have read or scanned the
header of this morning. Phew, talk about loops.
:-{
Fred

--

Fred Peerenboom, user of the UniBoard System @ dmapub.dma.org
E-Mail: Fred.Peerenboom@bbs.dmapub.dma.org
The Dayton Microcomputer Association Voice: (513) 222-4DMA (4362)
Public Unix Access System, Dayton, OH. Data: (513) 222-INET (4638) (USA)

106. Re: [BBSSIG:402] Re: OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Mon, 23 Jan 1995 08:14:10 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950123080903.2077A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 22 Jan 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

> the fellow I trust there advised running Novell (formerly DR) DOS. The
> latest version will run 32-bit preemptive multi-tasking. I can run the

That sounds interesting. Please let us know how it works if you get a
copy of it... Right now I'm running dos 6.2, and Desqview for the bbs
machine. It seems to multitask well...

But I'm allways looking for better...

> I think we could collect enough collective experience among the sysops
> on board to make a compendium of stuff for the next revision of the BBS
> Sysops Guide and/or for the PSR.

Sounds like a good idea... Maybe who ever does the book could ask a
"question of the week" deal, and find the answers from the group.

> At any rate, the clone I built from motherboard on up is working and has
> just about exactly what I wanted in it (instead of buying someone else's

> idea of what I should have in a computer). If anyone is thinking of
> building a clone but on the fence, I would say give it a try. Most hams

I always build the machine I want.. I've done that since day one of
owning a PC. It's the only way to go if you have a specific idea in mind
of what you want...

Plus as you upgrade, things start collecting around, and before you know
it, you almost have another machine...

(This was the case for the PBBS machine... It's mostly old parts that I
threw together... Then slowly, I upgraded it...)

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****  
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *  
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *  
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *  
*****
```

107. RE: [BBSSIG:399] OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Mon, 23 Jan 95 08:49:00 PST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F23DAF0@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Could this be a contributing factor? OS/2 needs IRQ 7 for LPT1 and
>can't have anything else using that interrupt, according to the on-line
>docs.

Sounds like you found your own problem.... Warp can be configured
to NOT use IRQ 7, the previous versions could not.

Warped again,
Mike N4CNW

108. RE: [BBSSIG:434] BPQ, FBB, xNOS, OS/2 Help Needed

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Mon, 23 Jan 95 08:57:00 PST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F23DCD4@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>I need to know the sequence for launching all this also. For example. Do
>I need to keep BPQCODE and FBB running in the same OS/2 DOS session. How
>can I get the two to talk to TNOS in another OS/2 DOS session.

Load BPQ first, FBB second, then put a SLIP/KISS link between a
BPQ-controlled
serial port and one that TNOS uses. It's not possible for TNOS to see
anything in
any DOS session other than the one it's in, thus you need a SLIP link
between the
two.

Mike N4CNW

109. Re: [BBSSIG:415] Loops

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 23 Jan 1995 07:09:33 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950123070334.26045A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 22 Jan 1995, Daniel Meredith wrote:

> Hi All,
> My system just recently began servicing a new domain, and
> unfortunately unbeknownst to me, there was a problem with the spooler
> and it was regenerating anything coming in from Listservs. This problem
> has been corrected and I offer my appologies for any inconvenience that
> this may have caused to your list.
>
>
> Daniel J. Meredith
> Sysadmin for @PHX-AZ.COM and @AZNETIG.STAT.COM
>

My stuff is free Dan, but pity the poor ham who has an account that costs x cents/msg...:-)

By the way it is still not fixed. After this message I am commenting on your still regenerating some really good information, especially that which I wrote, for about the 4th or 5th time! I saw one sent out this morning 23 jan that I posted on the 12th. I got 88 new msg's from net and bbs sig...a new record!

Maybe you need to just turn off that spooler for awhile....

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

110. Re: [BBSSIG:396] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 23 Jan 95 10:09:15 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501231009.ZM26965@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jan 21, 7:52am, Dave Wolf wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:396] Re: BBS Software Preference
> In the 'for what it's worth' department, re: AA4RE's stability (the
> software's stability, not Roy's!), when I added more memory to the
> computer that I use for AA4RE, the occasional lockups have seemed to
> disappear. System using 6 Meg of RAM. Yes, 4 Meg basically sits there
> doing nothing, but with BPQ and a bunch of ports, there must be some
> processes that grab a little extra memory now and then that would put
> things in the jackpot before. The lesson I've learned is that for any
> BBS software (just like any other software), have plenty of memory in
> the machine to avoid problems.
>
> Dave W05H
>
>-- End of excerpt from Dave Wolf

Second this comment!

My software will run on a 386 with 1 MB of memory.

However, it will run a LOT better with 4 MB available,
and would really like to have 8 MB if the system has
lots of ports and lots of simultaneous users (e.g. 10 radios,
20 users at once).

What's all that memory for? Disk cache to make file access
quick, RAM disk to make temporary files really quick.

I suspect any bbs program will work best on a machine with
plenty of available memory.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

111. RE: [BBSSIG:445] Re: BBS Software Preference

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
Date: Mon, 23 Jan 1995 13:24:06 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098AE4D.102FC2A0.2308@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

hi tim I am online now

112. Apologies

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
Date: Mon, 23 Jan 1995 16:42:41 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098AE68.CDC82EE0.3034@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,
Sorry about the earlier message concerning me "being online now, tim"

My only excuse is "I am new to this"

I sent that message in reply to the wrong message so it showed up in here.

Again, my apologies!

Jeff KE4ARH

113. Flaming!

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Tue, 24 Jan 1995 01:02:46 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950123180319112@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,
I have just started receiving a rash of crap from several of the users on the net. I want to make one point clear, my system is NOT regurgitating again!!! I have confirmed the messages that blasted out last night were stuck in queue at the host PRIMENET or somewhere in between. I unsubscribed my offending address immediately after the problem occurred and my queue at this end has been EMPTY for nearly 5 days now. I also sent out my appology several days ago, however it only recently appeared YESTERDAY, January 22, 1995. Before anyone flames, I suggest you READ the headers to note it is OLD traffic. I am watching the spooler and running it MANUALLY so I can see that it is not misbehaving again. So to all you inconsiderate flammers, well, you know what you can do.

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

114. RE: [BBSSIG:402] Re: OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM
Date: Tue, 24 Jan 1995 12:28:47 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950124122847.20208ccf@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I also bought DOS-7 from Novell. Tried it once and had trouble loading. So I set it aside. I am most interested in tying a 3-PC in house network to TCP/IP and maybe my RLI system. Anyone have any suggestions?

Carl WA0CQG

115. Re: [BBSSIG:449] Re: OS/2, BPQ, BBS software

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 24 Jan 95 14:54:51 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501241454.ZM28293@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jan 24, 2:07pm, ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:449] Re: OS/2, BPQ, BBS software
> I also bought DOS-7 from Novell. Tried it once and had trouble loading.
> So I set it aside. I am most interested in tying a 3-PC in house network

> to TCP/IP and maybe my RLI system. Anyone have any suggestions?
>
> Carl WA0CQG
>-- End of excerpt from ESTEY@SKYLER.MAVD.HONEYWELL.COM

I'm using BPQ over ethernet.
Ethernet is simple, cheap, and it works.
Those old ethernet cards, like the Novell NE1000, can be found
for very good prices ("You WANT this junk? Take it!") and work
just fine for this purpose.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.U.S.A.NOAM

116. Memory et al

From: "John W. (Bill) Hays, W00MV" <billh@INS.INFONET.NET>
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 09:03:46 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098AFBB.067725A4.144@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

For a friend I ask:
I was wondering if you
might ask if anyone is running MSYS 1.18 under Windows and how much ram
they are using to do so. It looks like maybe to multitask with MSYS might
require OS/2 Warp, but haven't seen anyone say they are using that ither?
A couple of those questions might spark a response, then it seems like
no one (except one other) have tried to run MSYS under windows without
any luck. I continue to run MSYS 1.17 as I prefer to run Windows and
only have one computer. Also, another question I have, is just how much
more Ram does 1.18 take compared to 1.17? Would 8meg be enough to run
MSYS 1.18 under Windows? 12meg? 16meg?
Thanks, Frank N9GQR

TNX, Bill

117. Header study

From: imotion@iu.net (Howard Goldstein)
Date: Wed, 25 Jan 1995 14:12:39 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199501251922.0AA14427@bb.iu.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Greg, while you've got the header info would you consider analyzing the TO
fields so as to rank the frequency that certain types of messages occur?
(ex: SALE, WANT, ALL)

Howie N2WX
imotion@iu.net

118. MSYS Memory???

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
Date: Thu, 26 Jan 1995 22:05:58 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098B0F1.76967B00.17645@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,
I am in the process of setting up MSYS on a new (to me) computer. Configuration is as follows:

386sx16 no coprocessor
2Mb RAM
MS-DOS 6.2

What I would like to know is an optimal memory configuration to carry abt.
1000-1500 messages. Right now it looks as if 1000 is going to be the upper
limit for messages. Also, which is better XMS or EMS? Mike says in the docs
that real (not simulated) EMS is best but XMS will work. I do not have EMS
boards but I can simulate EMS with the XMS. Which would be better- simulated
EMS or XMS?

Thanks,
Jeff
KE4ARH@KE4ARH.#SBY.MD.USA

119. BBS Software Selection.

From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
Date: Fri, 27 Jan 1995 09:52:24 -0800
To: JeffN5UBY@aol.com
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <ab4ee0d50d021004b4b0@[129.46.12.181]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>I noitced you said that the MSYS you were running was a little "Klunky" And I
>was wondering what you were not liking about it??
>I run msys 1.18 and have run MSYS since their 1.13 (I think that's what it
>was) I like MSYS and have never had a problem with it once I got it going
>right, I use the Netrom/Conferance/BBS/TCPIP on it and it seems to work fine.
>Please if you would, I'd like to hear your problems, Thanks and 73 de Jeff
>N5UBY@KB5TBQ.#NCOK.OK.USA.NA (SysOp)
>JeffN5UBY@aol.com

Jeff, There are a couple other BBS' in our area, one is using AA4RE and the other is using F6FBB. Most of these are comments from users. Most of which seem to prefer the BBS using AA4RE. At least the way it is configured here, with lots of bells and whistles, Call Book, White Pages, Doors etc. I think it has a lot to do with the way the sysop has it laid out.

Our local sysop that is using MSYS is beginning to get it together and making it a little easier for the users. This is the important thing, isn't it? I got a lot of response, and none of it is conclusive to go one way or another. Most everyone supported the system that they had chosen, which is natural. What I was looking for was some all out boasting about how there system was better than system "X" because.... It has these features, and the other one (by name) does not. I guess people are too sensitive about flames to make any definitive statements. Anyway, I am going to give it all to the sysop and let him make up his own mind.

If you have an good arguments about MSYS, I am ready to listen.

Marvin J. Munster
mmunster@qualcomm.com
WB6PKK @ KJ6VC.#SOCA.CA.US.NA

"As the fading light of a dying day filtered through the window blinds, Roger stood over his victim with a smoking .45, surprised at the serenity that filled him after pumping six slugs into the bloodless tyrant that had mocked him day after day, and then he shuffled out of the office with one last look back at the shattered computer terminal lying there like a silicon armadillo left to rot on the information highway."

120. F6FBB BBS

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 28 Jan 1995 08:20:55 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950128081429.14070A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I run a FBB bbs in Las Cruces, NM and the hams still connect, send a L and watch the titles go by. After 100 tiles go by they read 1-5 messages and go away...next day...

So here is what I wrote for the club newsletter and I'm going to send it to others not in the club...

How to Use a Packet BBS
By Karl Larsen K5DI

Beginning: All Ham Radio BBS are easy to check into and get registered as a user. The first thing to do is locate the BBS that is near you. This is because you will get faster service from the close BBS. In Las Cruces the close BBS is the K5DI BBS. Connect to this BBS just like you do any other station.

When first connected the BBS will ask you to answer several questions. They are your first name, location, zip code and Home BBS. For Home BBS tell it K5DI. . The BBS will say "Thank You" and you are now a registered user.

Mail: You will want to exchange mail with other packet users. For example if your brother W6XX is a ham in Los Angeles and has been using a BBS there for several months you may be able to just type s w6xx and the BBS will check a big table of data, find w6xx and finish the address to him. If your brother just got on the air he will need to get his complete packet BBS address to you.

Your complete packet BBS address if you use my BBS is <your call>@k5di.nm.usa.noam. As an example if your call is kc5abc then your address is kc5abc@k5di.nm.usa.noam. When you send him your address he will be able to send you mail immediately.

Some basic mail commands are listed below:

KM : KILL all messages to you, that you have read.
LM : LIST all messages to you.
O : Choose "options" (language, paging).
RM : Read all messages to you.
RN : Read all NEW messages to you.
S : SEND a message.
T : "Talk" to sysop.
B : Bye (disconnect).

Bulletins: Every day I get a lot of bulletins on many topics. They come from 3 other BBS that "forward" with me. Most Hams just connect to the bbs and type L and list every bulletin they have not seen before. This is easy but wastes time in general. The BBS software has filters that you can use to list only bulletins you have an interest in. Here is a list of several filters you can use:

L lists all new messages since you last issued a L-command.
LB lists only bulletins.
LL 10 lists the last 10 messages in the mailbox [List Last].
LS [Text] lists messages with [text] in the subject.
L< [callsign] lists messages FROM [callsign].
L> [callsign] lists messages TO [callsign].
L@ [callsign] lists messages @[callsign].
L [message#]- lists ONLY messages with higher number than [messages#].
L [message#]-[message#] lists all messages between these numbers.

There is a special list function that is LC. Type LC * or LC and the BBS gives a list of available LC-fields. If you once type LC DX, then all list-command (except LM and LN) will only list messages with a to-field of DX. If you type LC *DX*, listings will contain all to-fields that have DX within it, for example vhfDX, Dxhf ect. To return to a normal list type LC *

The 2 most powerful are the LS and LC commands. For example if you wanted to list only the message(s) that have the word exam in the title of the message you type LS exam and the bbs will list only those. LC is a permanent command. If you type LC *DX* then all you will ever list are messages with dx in the to-field. If you want to list all bulletins again just type LC a space and then *.

Other: The BBS has another part that is useful for all users to know. At the prompt type F. You will get a list like this:

C : Connections - statistics.
D : Documentation.
N : Call-book (nomenclature).
Q : Qth-locator (calculations etc.).
T : Satellites, trajectory
F : Return to BBS mode.

B : Disconnect.

The one I want to talk about is D. When you type D you will be shown a list of files. You can read these files and at the same time save them on your computer and print them out for use. It will take some experimenting to get this right. Feel free to do this anytime you want to.

Make my BBS your source of information and world-wide mail. I will watch you use it and grin from ear to ear!

73, de karl, k5di

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

121. Re: [BBSSIG:455] F6FBB BBS

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Sat, 28 Jan 1995 12:08:24 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950128120620.5404A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 28 Jan 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> So here is what I wrote for the club newsletter and I'm going to send it
> to others not in the club...
>
> How to Use a Packet BBS
> By Karl Larsen K5DI

Karl,

Is it ok if I give this article out to some locals around here and add a section for specific CBBS user commands?

The reason I would like to use it is because it is clearly written and much better than the one I wrote...

Thanks!

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

122. LLBBS + packet BBS

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 95 9:30:17 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501291530.AA177854@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Has anyone on the SIG had experience with operating a landline BBS (running landline bbs software) and providing a 'door' for licensed amateurs to access a packet bbs. this could be a packet bbs on the same (multi-tasking) computer or a different computer (linked by serial port OR LAN connection).

What software? What kind of setup? Any technical tips?

Looking at using one number to cover both an open LL board and the packet board modem access as an alternative to getting distinctive ring and two numbers (for the separate applications) on the one line.

Dave W05H

123. Re: [BBSSIG:457] LLBBS + packet BBS

From: Barry Buelow - WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 10:26:52 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199501291626.KAA18166@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Dave,

We've run a dialup packet access port for several years. It uses a old llbbs program that was hacked to add a TNC port. The biggest problem we've had is talking to the TNC. One command at a time and insert long delays.

This isn't exactly what you wanted but if someone is willing to work on the code, you should be able to get what you want.

73 Barry

124. LLBBS & packet BBS (multitasking)

From: "Eugene G. Sidorov" <jerry@ua9ar.urf.ac.ru>
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 95 21:15:41 +0300
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <AADjzAlyi0@ua9ar.urf.ac.ru>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Howdy all,

- > Has anyone on the SIG had experience with operating a landline BBS
- > (running landline bbs software) and providing a 'door' for licensed
- > amateurs to access a packet bbs. this could be a packet bbs on the same
- > (multi-tasking) computer or a different computer (linked by serial port
- > OR LAN connection).
- >
- > What software? What kind of setup? Any technical tips?
- >
- > Dave W05H

I think there are some people interested in getting answer for this question (I'm one of them...). Therefore the opinion of mine is appreciation of putting this answer to BBSSIG.

Truly yours, Jerry UA9AR.

125. Re: [BBSSIG:456] Re: F6FBB BBS

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 11:12:36 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950129110927.28919A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 28 Jan 1995, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

- > On Sat, 28 Jan 1995, Klarsen wrote:
- >
- > > So here is what I wrote for the club newsletter and I'm going to send it
- > > to others not in the club...
- > >
- > > How to Use a Packet BBS
- > > By Karl Larsen K5DI
- > >
- > Karl,
- > Is it ok if I give this article out to some locals around here
- > and add a section for specific CBBS user commands?

Of course Bill and thanks for the flowers! I suggest what you do is put Your paper here so that other CBBS sysops can use it too. As the little message says when you do a smtp, "share and enjoy"....:-)

- >
- > The reason I would like to use it is becuase it is clearly
- > written and much better than the one I wrote...
- >
- > Thanks!
- >
- > 73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
> *****
> * Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
> * Internet: wlbar@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
> * Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
> *****
>
>
>
73, de karl k5di
```

126. Re: [BBSSIG:457] LLBBS + packet BBS

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 11:30:09 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950129112242.28919B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 29 Jan 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

```
> Has anyone on the SIG had experience with operating a landline BBS
> (running landline bbs software) and providing a 'door' for licensed
> amateurs to access a packet bbs. this could be a packet bbs on the same
> (multi-tasking) computer or a different computer (linked by serial port
> OR LAN connection).
```

Dave I run f6fbb software for the pbbs and I have the Binkley Mailer working with the Maximus telephone bbs and am a Fidonet member at node 1:305/111. I have thought about letting telephone users choose when they call the Binkley Mailer, whether to choose the normal bbs called Karl's Place, or the K5DI pbbs.

I will explore doing this Dave. There are plenty of telephone bbs that have multiple bbs software. Binkley is very good but like ham software poorly documented....hi

```
>
> What software? What kind of setup? Any technical tips?
>
> Looking at using one number to cover both an open LL board and the
> packet board modem access as an alternative to getting distinctive
> ring and two numbers (for the separate applications) on the one line.
>
> Dave W05H
>
>
> Yes well I have 2 lines now. A third is to much cost for a hobby.
```

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

127. Re: [BBSSIG:457] LLBBS + packet BBS

From: jwt@shrine.cyber.ad.jp (Jim Tittsler)
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 09:23:40 +0900
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <C63B1Khq1m5M077yn@shrine.cyber.ad.jp>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I've not tried it, but I did notice a shareware TNC "door" by K2NE on the SimTel mirrors in /msdos/bbsdoor/tncdr106.zip.

Jim 7J1AJH

128. FBB List-Serv Address

From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 22:16:05 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <v01510100ab5209942c95@[44.122.0.4]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Does anyone have the address of the F6FBB List-Serv.

I've done several searches but have been unable to locate it.

Still trying to get FBB/BPQ to work in OS/2 Warp VDM.

Help!

73 de Dale
INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam
Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)

129. Re: [BBSSIG:457] LLBBS + packet BBS

From: "Ronald D. Hackett" <rhackett@crl.com>
Date: Sun, 29 Jan 1995 20:20:26 -0800 (PST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950129195718.645A-100000@crl3.crl.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 29 Jan 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

> Has anyone on the SIG had experience with operating a landline BBS
> (running landline bbs software) and providing a 'door' for licensed
> amateurs to access a packet bbs. this could be a packet bbs on the same
> (multi-tasking) computer or a different computer (linked by serial port
> OR LAN connection).
>

The tncdr106.zip program on SimTel will allow users to access your TNC from a BBS door. I ran this successfully for a short while. This only works if the TNC is not being accessed by another program, like a packet BBS program running in another window on the same machine. That's why I had to stop using the TNC door.

That brings up another problem for DOS bound programs. Both the packet radio BBS software (JNOS in my case) and the LLBBS software cannot communicate via a software connection. The alternative is to use two serial ports with a null modem. So, who has two spare serial ports? This would allow the user to call the LLBBS, drop to a door that would talk to the packet BBS through the hardware loopback, and communicate with the TNC using the packet BBS.

I took another route with my system. I rewrote a version of the BM mailer to run as a door under the LLBBS software. It can read the packet BBS message base and send messages just like the packet BBS. My program also allows unlicensed (or unvarified) users READ-ONLY access to the packet BBS message base. The only drawback is that the user cannot access the TNC directly for any live on-the-air sessions. My intent was to let folks try before they buy. I hope my little experiment will get more people in the San Antonio area interested in packet radio.

> What software? What kind of setup? Any technical tips?
>

As mentioned above, the TNC door is available on the SimTel mirrors. If you're interested in my 'hack' of the BM mailer, I'd be happy to share. It appears to be stable, but I haven't finished cleaning it up. It is written to work with the NOS message base, so I'm not sure it will work with other packet BBS type bases.

> Looking at using one number to cover both an open LL board and the
> packet board modem access as an alternative to getting distinctive
> ring and two numbers (for the separate applications) on the one line.
>

This will work if you use a front end mailer like Front Door or Binkley, AND you only run one program or the other at a time. If both programs are running in separate windows and are trying to access the same modem, you will get port conflicts. I haven't checked the modem market recently, but my modem cannot differentiate between the distinctive ring patterns. Even if it could, it would have to find a distinctive way of connecting to the correct software.

> Dave W05H
>

Good luck. I'll be following this thread to see if there are better solutions than mine. I'm sure there are, but the last time I posed this question I got no response.

73 de Ron
n8naa

```
*****
Ronald D. Hackett          Internet:    r.hackett@ieee.org
The Packet Rat BBS        Packet Radio: N8NAA@K3WGF.#SAT.TX.USA.NOAM
San Antonio, Texas, USA   AMPRnet:    n8naa@n8naa.ampr.org
Data/Fax: (210)494-2849   Fidonet:    1:387/340
*****
```

130. [BBSSIG:463] FBB List-Ser

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 05:56:50 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95012922575721@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
-> To: bbssig@tapr.org
-> Date: Sun, 29 Jan 95 22:23 CST
-> Subject: [BBSSIG:463] FBB List-Serv Address
->
-> Does anyone have the address of the F6FBB List-Serv.
->
-> I've done several searches but have been unable to locate it.
->
-> Still trying to get FBB/BPQ to work in OS/2 Warp VDM.
->
-> Help!
->
->
-> 73 de Dale
-> INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
-> AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam
-> Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
-> Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)
->
->

Attention F6FBB Sysops/Networkers!

Welcome!

A Forum Is Available For F6FBB Sysops. The Purpose Of This Server To Provide Sysops and Networkers With Tricks/Tips/Help and New Software Updates Concerning The F6FBB Bulletin Board System.

To Add Yourself To This List, Please Send Electronic Mail To:

F6FBB-LIST@PHX-AZ.COM

And Include The Command:

SUBSCRIBE

As The SUBJECT of Your Message.

The F6FBB Server Has Been Established To Help Sysops and Networkers Alik Providing Help and Information In A Timely Manner. Sharing of Software Other Miscellaneous Information Via The Server Is Quite Alright.

```
\-----
Daniel J. Meredith N7MRP          Internet: n7mrp@phx-az.com
P.O. Box 45378                   Ax.25: n7mrp@n7mrp.az.usa.na
Phoenix, Arizona                 Voice: +1-602-489-7384
85064-5378                       Data: +1-602-912-0225
                                   Fax: +1-602-956-2566
```

Hope that helps....

73 de Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563 Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

131. Re: [BBSSIG:463] FBB List-Serv Address

From: Richard.Saue@jur.uib.no (Richard Saue)
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 07:00:24 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <v01510102ab524d920c45@[129.177.155.182]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi!

>Still trying to get FBB/BPQ to work in OS/2 Warp VDM.

>

Saw a bulletin on the packetnetwork from g8bpq few days ago. There he told that at os/2 version of his switch would be ready for beta-testing in few days. He were looking for beta-testers. You may drop him a mail....

73 de Richard - LA4SGA

132. Re: [BBSSIG:457] LLBBS + packet BBS

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 08:44:34 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950130084239.3316A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 29 Jan 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

> Has anyone on the SIG had experience with operating a landline BBS

>

> What software? What kind of setup? Any technical tips?

I have somewhere in my disk archives: TNCD00R. It's a DORINFO1.DEF door that runs on most bbs packages and allows verified users to access a tnc.

WWhat I did was link it to my BPQ switch. However, Since the land line board didn't run that good, and I decided to put more into the packet board for now, I took it down...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

133. Re: [BBSSIG:464] Re: LLBBS + packet BBS

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 08:06:12 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950130074034.4283A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sunday afternoon hack-hack I installed the Binkley Mail software on a computer while 5 people in the room chain-smoked. When I arrived the sysop asked, "do you mind if I smoke?". I said no problem...

Anyway this Binkley software is freeware and available worldwide. The way I and most LL bbs use it, Binkley monitors the modem full time. It can tell a modem from a FAX. My bbs software is not running.

When Binkley receives a modem call it waits to see what kind of call it is. If it's another bbs with mail Binkley takes the call and with it's ZedZap capability gets the mail and puts it into a proper directory(s). If the caller is a user, he's asked to send a Esc to get the bbs or, he can wait 20 seconds and Binkley will define the call a user and turn on the bbs.

When the bbs comes up Binkley goes to sleep. It turns into a small kernal that just handles the data to and from the modem. At the decision point before Binkley has decided the call is for the bbs, you can present the user a banner asking which of "n" bbs do you want? When selected Binkley turns on the selected bbs software.

The problem I see is this: FBB is running in it's window all the time Binkley is doing it's thing. So perhaps the thing to do is have 2 copies of FBB and start 1 copy only if called by Binkley. This FBB can share the file directories of the "real" FBB.

I have BPQ switch running as a TSR turned on prior to Windows. I think John Wiseman put a port in his latest version that might be called by Binkley. If this works the user will find himself connected to a real netrom node. He can type bbs and be connected to FBB. The problem is control. I will look into that issue later if it works...:-)

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

134. Re: [BBSSIG:467] Re: LLBBS + packet BBS

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 08:18:20 -0700 (MST)
To: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950130080924.4283B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 30 Jan 1995, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

```
> On Sun, 29 Jan 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:
>
> > Has anyone on the SIG had experience with operating a landline BBS
> >
> > What software? What kind of setup? Any technical tips?
>
> I have somewhere in my disk archives: TNCDOOR. It's a DORINF01.DEF door
> that runs on most bbs packages and allows verified users to access a tnc.
>
> What I did was link it to my BPQ switch. However, Since the land line
>      ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
```

Bill, anything you can find about how you did this please send it to me, or this group! I am running the Maximus bbs software and now have 3 game doors running. TNCDOOR sounds like what I need to have, and I want to link to the BPQ Switch like you did.

Please put any software on ftp.ucsd.edu in the /hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming directory. Then all interested guys can get it.

73, de karl, k5di

```
> board didn't run that good, and I decided to put more into the packet
> board for now, I took it down...
```

```

>
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX
> *****
> * Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
> * Internet: wlarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
> * Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
> *****
>
>

```

135. Re: [BBSSIG:467] Re: LLBBS + packet BBS

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
 Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 11:02:28 -0500 (EST)
 To: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
 Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950130110010.17601A-100000@planetx>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 30 Jan 1995, Klarsen wrote:

```

> > WHat I did was link it to my BPQ switch. However, Since the land line
> ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
> Bill, anything you can find about how you did this
> please send it to me, or this group! I am running the

```

Simple to do, someone posted an address to get a newer version of the door.
 Then, link it to a BPQ port, and inform the user to do a
 *** Linked to CALLSIGN
 and then can connect to the switch...

It worked on the bench, and from the door... I dunno if it would work for
 a caller, because I never had anyone try that... But it should work.

```

> Please put any software on ftp.ucsd.edu in the
> /hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming directory. Then all
> interested guys can get it.

```

Ok, I think I have version 1.5, but If I get version 1.6, I'll put it up
 there for you all...

```

73, de Bill, N3JIX
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****

```

136. Re: [BBSSIG:457] LLBBS + packet BBS

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
 Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 12:42:02 -0500
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <199501301742.AA20594@panix.com>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

At 09:32 AM 1/29/95 CST, Dave Wolf wrote:
 >Has anyone on the SIG had experience with operating a landline BBS
 >(running landline bbs software) and providing a 'door' for licensed
 >amateurs to access a packet bbs. this could be a packet bbs on the same
 >(multi-tasking) computer or a different computer (linked by serial port
 >OR LAN connection).

For several years I operated a packet BBS which also had landline (telephone
 modem) access using ROSErver/PRMBS.

Mine was configured so everyone could read and post identically, over the
 radio or the telephone, but all messages originated on my system were
 automatically held -- requiring sysop intervention to be readable by others
 or forwarded.
 (Messages received from other BBSs were not held. This method fully
 complied with the FCC's message-content responsibility regulations.)

Non-hams had the exact same access as licensed hams. Since all locally
 originatd messages were held this presented no problem at all.

PRMBS supports X, Y and Zmodem file transfers over the phone, and compressed
 forwarding over the air.

I believe recent releases are available via ftp from lantz.com.

BTW, the only reason my system is no longer in operation is that there's no room for it anymore! I recently got married, my wife moved into my smallish NYC apartment, plus we're trying to sell the apartment. Once we move to a house I plan to again have a packet and landline system in operation. (Anyone want to buy an apartment in NYC with roof antenna rights???)

73, Andy

--

| Tech Producer/Editor Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |
| WCBS-TV Channel 2 News http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |
| New York, NY USA --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |

137. [BBSSIG:467] Re: LLBBS +

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 21:11:53 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <95013014125828@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
-> To: bbssig@tapr.org
-> Date: Mon, 30 Jan 95 07:54 CST
-> Subject: [BBSSIG:467] Re: LLBBS + packet BBS
->
-> On Sun, 29 Jan 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:
->
-> > Has anyone on the SIG had experience with operating a landline BBS
-> >
-> > What software? What kind of setup? Any technical tips?
->
-> I have somewhere in my disk archives: TNCDOOR. It's a DORINF01.DEF d
-> that runs on most bbs packages and allows verified users to access a
->
-> What I did was link it to my BPQ switch. However, Since the land lin
-> board didn't run that good, and I decided to put more into the packet
-> board for now, I took it down...
->
-> 73, de Bill, N3JIX

Bill,

Is this something you'd be willing to share. I'd like to give my users access again as long as I can link it to G8BPQ on the other computer.

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
 Arizona Network Intertie Group
 "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 44563	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-4563	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

138. Re: [BBSSIG:472] Re: LLBBS +

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 19:34:57 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950130192905.23763A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 30 Jan 1995, Daniel Meredith wrote:

> Bill,
> Is this something you'd be willing to share. I'd like to give my
> users access again as long as I can link it to G8BPQ on the other
> computer.

Ok, let me explain how I had it:
One machine: Desqview, CBBS, BPQ 4.06, and Renegade BBS software with
TNCDOOR running.

```
In BPQCFG.TXT:
TNCPORT
    COM2
    APPLFLAGS=4 ;Not sure if I had it set this way
ENDPORT

ENABLE_LINKED=A
```

So, I set TNCDOOR to use COM2. Speed 4800, I think. However, the switch
ignored MYCALL. So, to fix it, the user must do a
*** LINKED TO [CALLSIGN]

Then they can connect to the switch with their call. The BIG BIG BIG BIG!
problem with that arrangement was the possibility of using my call instead.
I didn't figure anything out about that...

If I get a chance here, I'll find the disks and upload the config files.

```
73, de Bill, N3JIX
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam                *
*****
```

139. Rought Draft for general input...

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 19:37:37 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950130193504.23763B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Here is the user doc that I modified from Karl's original text. For
those who run CBBS systems or systems like it, please check it and give
me any suggestions I may need to improve it for my local users.

Thanks!

How to Use a Packet BBS
By Karl Larsen K5DI

CBBS modifications to text
by Bill Barnes, N3JIX

Beginning: All Ham Radio BBS are easy to check into and get
registered as a user. The first thing to do is locate the
BBS that is near you. This is because you will get faster
service from the close BBS. Connect to this BBS just like you
do any other station. So, one 145.07 Mhz, just do a C N3JIX or
C BBSJIX to get to my bbs. (Note: BBSJIX is an alias for my packet
bbs. Not all bbs have aliases.)

On your very first connected to the BBS, it will ask you
to answer several questions. They are your first name, location, zip
code and Home BBS.

The text will look something like this:

```
*** Please Enter N (name) to enter your name.
*** Please Enter NH (call) to enter the call of you MAIL (HOME) BBS.
*** Please Enter NZ (zip) to enter your ZIP code.
*** Please Enter NQ (town) to enter your QTH.
```

To enter your Name, give the command:
N <your name>

To enter your QTH:
NQ <Your town>

To enter your Zip:
NZ <Your Zip>

To enter your Home BBS:

NH <the call of the pbbs you check into the most>

Hopefully, you'll pick N3JIX for your home PBBS. If not, that's ok. Please note that any mail that arrives for you on that bbs will be here. The home bbs info is for the sysop to route personal mail to the bbs you check into the most.

Mail: You will want to exchange mail with other packet users. For example if your brother W6XX is a ham in Los Angeles and has been using a BBS there, N6XXX for several months you should be able to just type sp w6xx@n6xxx and the BBS will check a big table of data, find n6xxx and finish the address to him. If your brother just got on the air he will need to get his complete packet BBS address to you. At least his call, and the call of the packet bbs he checks into. This way, the bbs can route the mail to him correctly.

Your complete packet BBS address if you use my BBS is <your call>@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam. As an example if your call is kc5abc then your address is: kc5abc@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam.

When you send him your address he will be able to send you mail immediately. (However, there is a time delay between mail being sent from one coast to the other. Here to New York State is about 4 hours. Here to other places in the state should take less time. Here to Alaska? Try it and let me know... {Grin})

Some basic mail commands are listed below:

KM : KILL all messages to you, that you have read.
LM : LIST all messages to you.
RM : Read all messages to you.
RN : Read all NEW messages to you.
S : SEND a message.
SP : SEND a "personal" message.
T : "Talk" to sysop.
B : Bye (disconnect).

Bulletins: Every day I get a lot of bulletins on many topics. They come from 2 other BBS that "forward" with me. Most Hams just connect to the bbs and type L and list every bulletin they have not seen before. This is easy but wastes time in general. The BBS software has filters that you can use to list only bulletins you have an interest in. Here is a list of several commands you can use to help.

L lists all new messages since you last issued a L-command.
LB lists only bulletins.
LL 10 lists the last 10 messages in the mailbox [List Last].
LS [Text] lists messages with [text] in the subject.
L< [callsign] lists messages FROM [callsign].
L> [callsign] lists messages TO [callsign].
L@ [callsign] lists messages @[callsign].
L [message#]- lists ONLY messages with higher number than [messages#].

A very powerful is the LS commands. For example if you wanted to list only the message(s) that have the word exam in the title of the message you type LS exam and the bbs will list only those. I like to read amsat bulletins, so I do a:
LS AMSAT
to see all the amsat bulletins that I can read.

Other: The BBS has other parts that are useful for all users to know.

W : What? Show a listing of file areas
W(letter) : shows the directory listing of a file area
D(letter) (Filename) : displays a file. You can save this file, or print it.
U(letter) (filename) : Upload a file. Let's you send text to add to the bbs File area.

Examples you send a:
W

The BBS responds with:
Use W and directory ID (i.e. WA);
A --> General Information. B --> IBM & Compatables Utilities.
C --> IBM & Compatables Programs. D --> District 8 Ares Info & Programs

You send:
WA

The BBS responds with:
9600.EPA 1K | KEPS.NEW 4K | SATS.MHZ 2K
CATVFREQ.LST 4K | PA.BBS 5K | SKYWARN.NEW 4K
COAX.TXT 2K | PACKET.NEW 7K

So, lets say you want the file called COAX.TXT.
you would enter:
DA coax.txt

And the BBS will send it to you to read, save, or print.

NE : Changes your prompt from long prompt to short prompt. (or back).
This will change your prompt from:
<YourCall> de N3JIX: [User 1] (?,B,C,CB,D,H,I,J,K,L,M,N,P,R,S,T,U,V,W) =>

T0:
(1) <YourCall> de N3JIX=>

I : Info on the BBS.
H : General Help
H (Command) : Detailed help on a specific command.
J : Shows ports on the BBS
JZ : Shows stations that connected to this port of the BBS and the times.
V : Version of the BBS software.
P (call) : Shows info about other users.
CB (callsign) : Access the north american callbook.

example of the call book:
CB n3jix

will return the qsl information of me. It's very useful when you're state
hunting and didn't get the contacts qsl infomation.

Make my BBS your source of information and world-wide
mail. I will watch you use it and grin from ear to ear!
73, de karl, k5di@k5di.nm.usa.noam

Agreed, Learn, Play, and Enjoy!
73, de Bill, N3JIX, Sysop N3JIX PBBS.
n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam

Disclaimer: This text was originally created by Karl, k5di. If you wish to
modify it, please ask him. If it's ok with him, it more than ok with me!
- N3JIX

140. Re: [BBSSIG:466] Re: FBB List-Serv Address

From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
Date: Mon, 30 Jan 1995 22:59:33 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <v01510101ab5360cdb97e@[44.122.0.4]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Saw a bulletin on the packetnetwork from g8bpq few days ago. There he told that
>at os/2 version of his switch would be ready for beta-testing in few days. He
>were looking for beta-testers. You may drop him a mail....
>
>73 de Richard - LA4SGA

Thanks!

Would you happen to know his Internet Address?

73 de Dale
INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam
Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)

141. Re: [BBSSIG:475] Re: FBB List-Serv Address

From: Richard.Saue@jur.uib.no (Richard Saue)
Date: Tue, 31 Jan 1995 07:26:44 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <v01510101ab53a5788253@[129.177.155.182]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Saw a bulletin on the packetnetwork from g8bpq few days ago. There he told that
>>at os/2 version of his switch would be ready for beta-testing in few days. He
>>were looking for beta-testers. You may drop him a mail....

>>

>>73 de Richard - LA4SGA

>

>Thanks!

>

>Would you happen to know his Internet Address?

>

>

>73 de Dale

No, Sorry. But guess it would not take that much time using packet and direct
the mail trough a sat-gate.....

73 de Richard - la4sga

142. Re: [BBSSIG:474] Rought draft for general input

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Tue, 31 Jan 95 12:17:00 EST
To: TAPR BBSSIG <BBSSIG@TAPR.ORG>
Message-ID: <2F2E722F@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ahem...well, as a professional editor and amateur know-it-all, I couldn't
resist the opportunity to add (and subtract) my 2-zillion-cents'-worth to
this. I twiddled a bit with the content, format, spelling and a few other
(mostly minor) things to help make this just a bit cleaner, clearer and more
informative. I hope this seems to improve it a bit, and that it's of some
help to anyone who cares. 8-)

Very 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 "The World's Foremost Authority"
QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrl.org (work); battles@ibm.net (home)
Packet radio: ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org; WS10@W1EDH.CT.USA.NOAM

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

--

Here's the user doc I modified from Karl's original text. For those who run
CBBS systems or systems like it, please check it and give me any suggestions
I may need to improve it for my local users.

Thanks!

How to Use a Packet BBS
By Karl Larsen, K5DI

CBBS modifications to text
by Bill Barnes, N3JIX

And a few more modifications
by Brian Batles, WS10

GETTING STARTED: All ham radio PBBSS are easy to check into and get
registered as a user. The first thing to do is locate the PBBS nearest you
because you'll get faster service from the closest PBBS. Connect to this
PBBSS just like you do any other station; on 145.07 MHz, do a C N3JIX or C
BBSJIX to get to my PBBS. (BBSJIX is an alias for my packet BBS. Not all
PBBSS have aliases.)

REGISTER: On your first connection to the PBBS, it will ask for your first

name, location, ZIP code and "home" PBBS. The text will look something like this:

*** Please Enter N (name) to enter your first NAME.
*** Please Enter NH (call sign) to enter the call sign of your MAIL (HOME) PBBS.
*** Please Enter NZ (zip) to enter your ZIP code.
*** Please Enter NQ (town) to enter your QTH.

To enter your Name, give the command:
N <your first name>

To enter your QTH:
NQ <Your town>

To enter your ZIP code:
NZ <Your ZIP code>

To enter your Home PBBS:
NH <the call sign of the PBBS you check into the most>

HOME PBBS: I hope you pick N3JIX for your home PBBS! (If not, that's okay.) Any mail that arrives for you on whatever PBBS you enter will be here. The home PBBS info is for the SysOp to route personal mail to the PBBS you check into the most. It has to be a "real" full-service packet BBS system that relays messages and bulletins as part of the national PBBS network, not just a local TNC "mailbox."

MAIL: You'll want to exchange mail with other packet users. For example, if your brother, W6XX, is in Los Angeles and uses a PBBS there, N6XXX, if you just type sp w6xx@n6xxx this PBBS will check a big table of data, and should find n6xxx and finish the address to him. If your brother just got on the air, his local PBBS may not be in the data base, so he'll need to get his complete packet BBS address to you--at least his call sign and the call sign of the packet BBS he checks into. This way your local PBBS (this one) can route mail to him correctly.

If you use my packet BBS, your complete packet BBS address is <your call sign>@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam. As an example, if your call sign was KC5ABC, your address would be kc5abc@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam.

When you send him your address, he'll be able to send you mail immediately (there's a time delay between mail sent from one coast to the other, however; from here to New York state is about 4 hours. Here to other places in the state should take less time. Here to Alaska? Try it and let me know... {Grin})

Some basic mail commands are listed below:

KM : KILL all messages to you that you have read.
LM : LIST all messages to you.
RM : Read all messages to you.
RN : Read all NEW messages to you.
S : SEND a message.
SP : SEND a "personal" message.
T : "Talk" to SysOp.
B : Bye (disconnect).

BULLETINS: Every day this PBBS gets a lot of bulletins on many topics. They come from all over the world, via 2 other PBBSs that forward data with me. Most hams just connect to this PBBS and type L to list every bulletin they haven't seen since the last time they logged in. This is easy, but can waste time. The PBBS software has filters you can use to list only bulletins you have an interest in. Here's a list of commands you can use to help:

L lists all new messages since you last issued an L command.
LB lists only bulletins.
LL 10 lists the last 10 messages in the mailbox [List Last].
LS [Text] lists messages with [text] in the subject.
L< [call sign] lists messages FROM [call sign].
L> [call sign] lists messages TO [call sign].
L@ [call sign] lists messages @[call sign].
L [message#]- lists ONLY messages with higher number than [message#].

The LS commands are powerful; for example, if you want to list only the message(s) that have the word "exam" in the title of the message, type LS exam and the PBBS will list only those. I like to read AMSAT bulletins, so I type:
LS AMSAT

to see all the AMSAT bulletins I can read.

OTHER: The PBBS has other parts that are useful for all users to know.

W : What? Shows a listing of file areas
W(letter) : Shows the directory listing of a file area
D(letter) (Filename) : Displays a file. You can save this file or print it.
U(letter) (filename) : Upload a file. Lets you send a text file to add to the PBBS File area.

For example, you send:

W

The PBBS responds with:

Use W and directory ID (ie, WA);

A --> General Information. B --> IBM & Compatibles Utilities.
C --> IBM & Compatibles Programs. D --> District 8 ARES Info & Programs

You send:

WA

The PBBS responds with:

9600.EPA	1K	KEPS.NEW	4K	SATS.MHZ	2K
CATVFREQ.LST	4K	PA.BBS	5K	SKYWARN.NEW	4K
COAX.TXT	2K	PACKET.NEW	7K		

Let's say you want the file called COAX.TXT. You'd enter:

da coax.txt

And the PBBS will send it to you to read, save or print.

NE: Changes your prompt from long prompt to short prompt (or back). This will change your prompt from:

<Your Call Sign> de N3JIX: [User 1] (
?,B,C,CB,D,H,I,J,K,L,M,N,P,R,S,T,U,V,W) =>

to

(1) <Your Call Sign> de N3JIX=>

I : Info on the PBBS.
H : General Help
H (Command) : Detailed help on a specific command.
J : Shows ports on the PBBS
JZ : Shows stations that connected to this port of the PBBS and the times.
V : Version of the PBBS software.
P (call sign) : Shows info about other users.
CB (call sign) : Access the North American call book.

example of the call book:

CB n3jix

will return the QSL information for me. It's useful when you're state hunting and didn't get the contact's QSL information.

IMPORTANT! Sending Bulletins: You can send a bulletin (ie, a message addressed to one or many PBBSs, that can be read by all PBBS users. Type the SB (Send Bulletin) command, followed by an appropriate "addressee" and address for distribution. Be sure your Subject line makes the contents as clear as possible. PLEASE BE CAREFUL AND THOUGHTFUL: A lot of amateurs unnecessarily "clog up" the national PBBS network with bulletins addressed to such destinations as ALL@USBBS, etc. The problem with this is that the @USBBS distribution means that EVERY PBBS in the country will receive a copy of this bulletin--is that REALLY necessary or appropriate? Think! Also, why send a message to ALL? Your intended audience will be much more likely to look at your message if its address has some descriptive meaning--and many amateurs don't even look at anything addressed to ALL. Some standardized addresses used on the packet BBS network include SALE, WANTED, HELP, TCP/IP, OS2, FEST, EXAM, DX, QSL, CLASS, CLUBS, SATS, EVENT and so forth; look at a list of bulletins here to get an idea of what others are commonly used. And ALWAYS write something useful in the Subject line--let people know what your

bulletin contains! Here are some examples of the WORST kind of packet bulletins:

```
45233   324  ALL@USBBS      950303  DOES ANYONE KNOW THIS
45234   645  HELP@USBBS      950404  Help
45235   775  CQ@WW        950403  CQ
```

Here's an example of a well-addressed bulletin:

```
45236   356  WANTED@PABBS  950303  Need manual for ICOM IC-751
45237   265  HELP@PABBS    950304  What's my grid square?
45238   454  FEST@PABBS    950404  Hamfest in Podunk PA Mar 19
```

See the difference? If you want advice on the finer points of addressing bulletins and mail, send me a note or call me at 555-555-5555 from 5-9 PM weeknights.

Make my PBBS your source of information and worldwide mail. I'll watch you use it and grin from ear to ear!

73 de Karl, k5di@k5di.nm.usa.noam

Agreed, Learn, Play and Enjoy!

73, de Bill, N3JIX, SysOp N3JIX PBBS.
n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam

Disclaimer: This text was originally created by Karl, K5DI. If you wish to modify it, please ask him. If it's okay with him, it's more than okay with me!

--N3JIX

143. Re: [BBSSIG:477] Re: Rought draft for general input

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 31 Jan 1995 13:47:07 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950131134247.15408A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 31 Jan 1995, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:

```
> Ahem...well, as a professional editor and amateur know-it-all, I couldn't
> resist the opportunity to add (and subtract) my 2-zillion-cents'-worth to
> this. I twiddled a bit with the content, format, spelling and a few other
> (mostly minor) things to help make this just a bit cleaner, clearer and more
> informative. I hope this seems to improve it a bit, and that it's of some
> help to anyone who cares. 8-)
```

I'm glad a "professional" did take a look at it... It's pretty generic, but I need it very informative, because most of the people who will see it around here need help just getting on the air. So at least I can give them something in between the times I call/drop by to help.

Very Good! I'll take some time and check out the revision later on.

Thanks for spending some time on it and reviewing it. I do like the section on sending bulletins.

FYI: PA for some reason seems to use PANET instead of PABBS. I do have my BBS setup to accept both and change to the currently used PANET.

However, still looks good. Thanks!

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

144. RE: [BBSSIG:478] Re: Rought draft for general input

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Tue, 31 Jan 95 14:03:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F2E8978@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> I'm glad a "professional" did take a look at it... It's
> pretty generic, but I need it very informative, because most
> of the people who will see it around here need help just
> getting on the air. So at least I can give them something in
> between the times I call/drop by to help.

Yeah, I always look for such things on PBBSSs I visit for the first time, but don't often find 'em (at least they're not in obvious places nor are new users "forced" to read 'em). Should be mandatory reading, like on telephone BBSSs.

> Very Good! I'll take some time and check out the revision later on.
>
> Thanks for spending some time on it and reviewing it. I do
> like the section on sending bulletins.

Glad to be of any help; I was hoping you wouldn't take offense or anything! 8-) (Believe me...and I know this from experience...some people *hate* having their writing edited!) The stuff on bulletins grew out of some discussion I've had on Internet and a guest column I wrote for Packet Perspective in QST (which I believe was also published in the TAPR PSR).

> FYI: PA for some reason seems to use PANET instead of PABBS.
> I do have my BBS setup to accept both and change to the
> currently used PANET.

Yeah, I was just taking a guess in the dark; in Connecticut, I've seen CTBBS, CTNET, NEBBS, TRIBBS, USBBS and WW. It's not always easy to figger out what regional/statewide distribution designators are in use. I wonder if anyone has ever been able to collect a fairly accurate national list of 'em?

> However, still looks good. Thanks!

Don't mention it--I'm not a programmer or hardware designer, so I like to do what I can to try to help!

--73 de BB

145. Routing

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
Date: Tue, 31 Jan 1995 18:51:33 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098B4C4.2217E240.4006@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

I saw a thread recently that was discussing routing names for different states (EX: DENET, CTBBS, CTNET, PANET, PABBS). My question is, has anyone made a survey of these types of uses and better yet for sysops, an attempt to standardize their uses? I see so much talk on how to eliminate the unnecessary ALLUS bulls. with not much progress (I recently offered to buy a tower from a gentleman in Ca. [I'm in Maryland] who advertised ALLUS if he would deliver the tower). It is my belief that if there were standardized routing names for states or areas that a lot of the unnecessary ALLUS bulletins would stop. Many times when a user in Maine, for example, wants to send a bulletin to all in Virginia but doesn't know how to route it, he/she will use the ALLUS or USBBS out of ignorance, albeit understandable ignorance.

Understand that mine own neck is not of sufficient length to stick out and suggest the standardized names, nor do I have a Nomex suit that will allow me to endure the flames that will surely result. Just wanted to generate some discussion on the subject and maybe learn a little something in the process.

Jeff
KE4ARH (MDCBBS or DENET or DEBBS Who knows?)

146. Re: [BBSSIG:480] Routing

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 31 Jan 95 17:01:27 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9501311701.ZM2497@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jan 31, 6:08pm, jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:480] Routing
> Hi All,
> I saw a thread recently that was discussing routing names for different
> states (EX: DENET, CTBBS, CTNET, PANET, PABBS). My question is, has anyone

> made a survey of these types of uses and better yet for sysops, an attempt
> to standardize their uses? I see so much talk on how to eliminate the un-
> necessary ALLUS bulls. with not much progress (I recently offered to buy a
> tower from a gentleman in Ca. [I'm in Maryland] who advertised ALLUS if he
> would deliver the tower). It is my belief that if there were standardized
> routing names for states or areas that a lot of the unnecessary ALLUS
bulletins
> would stop. Many times when a user in Maine, for example, wants to send a
> bulletin to all in Virginia but doesn't know how to route it, he/she will use
> the ALLUS or USBBS out of ignorance, albeit understandable ignorance.
>
> Understand that mine own neck is not of sufficient length to stick out and
> suggest the standardized names, nor do I have a Nomex suit that will allow
> me to endure the flames that will surely result. Just wanted to generate
> some discussion on the subject and maybe learn a little something in the
> process.

I must have a long neck ...

We use OR here in Oregon.

It's easy to remember, you can find it in a standard US Post
Office document, people don't forget it, folks anywhere can
generally remember it, it is in everyone's hierarchical location,
so it tends to be seen a lot ... gee! it just seemed *so* simple!

And it was.

Everyone understood what it meant ("Send this bulletin everywhere
that is appropriate so that people who live in Oregon can see it.").

Even this sysops understood it. Remember that the main population
center in Oregon (Portland, OR / Vancouver, WA) is on a border. What do
we do about that? VERY simple: the border BBS systems handle OR
and WA ... on both sides of the border ... no big deal.

But, like other "simple" things (NOAM / NA comes to mind) I'd be willing
to lay money at "interesting" odds that sysops *will refuse to adopt
this simple system* ... anyone wanta bet?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WORLI@WORLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

February 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9502

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9502

1. Re: [BBSSIG:480] Routing

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Wed, 1 Feb 95 7:08:25 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502011308.AA103200@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

For those who didn't read Jeff's original msg, it wondered about any work that has been done or might be done regarding coming up with standardized 'flood' addresses.

Jeff: you generally don't see any flames on the TAPR SIG discussion groups. Maybe some mild teasing now and then, but these groups are here for open discussion of topics that, hopefully, result in greater efficiency for moving messages from point A to point Z, among many other subjects.

There was extensive discussion of developing standardized regional routing and coming up with flood designators for bulletins around the time we were exploring the hierarchical address issue. We could only handle one at a time, and the hierarchical address matter seemed more important than that flood designators. It could be time, if the SIG is ready to tackle another issue, for floods.

Something very simple that I envision would be a national/international scheme to use the hierarchical element for the region (such as two-letter state or provincial code in US and Canada) + BBS. This would be for floods originating OUTSIDE the region. INSIDE the region, those hams who are actually running the boards would decide among themselves (and most already have, more or less) what they would adopt. The address would undergo a conversion once it crossed the state/provincial border from the 'standardized' flood to the flood used locally. I can use Texas as an example:

in Texas we use 'TEXAS' as our statewide flood. If someone wanted to send a msg for all in the state to read from California, they could send to ALL @ TXBBS (or whatever was finally settled upon). The moment that bulletin hit a bbs in Texas, it would get changed to ALL @ TEXAS, then it would fan out in the forwarding process. In this way, folks outside the state can send floods to Texas without having to know that we have adopted 'TEXAS' as our statewide flood.

Local control with standardization without having to post all of these regional floods in a catalog someplace. And that are useable, even if the local folks get together and decide to make a change. I think it's a good compromise. Have at it, folks...

Dave W05H

2. Re: [BBSSIG:479] Re: Rought draft for general input

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Wed, 1 Feb 1995 08:38:50 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950201083613.4623A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 31 Jan 1995, Battles, Brian, W510 wrote:

> but don't often find 'em (at least they're not in obvious places nor are new
> users "forced" to read 'em). Should be mandatory reading, like on telephone
> BBSs.

What I am going to do, is add the download command to read it to my info.mb, this way the can read it. Plus I'm going to print a few copies out to give to people when I drop by to help them.

> Don't mention it--I'm not a programmer or hardware designer, so I like to
> do what I can to try to help!

Anything helps and makes it better. Thanks.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

3. Re: [BBSSIG:480] Routing

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Wed, 01 Feb 1995 10:31:20 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org, bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502011531.AA14658@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 06:08 PM 1/31/95 CST, jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu wrote:
>Hi All,
>I saw a thread recently that was discussing routing names for different
>states (EX: DENET, CTBBS, CTNET, PANET, PABBS). My question is, has anyone
>made a survey of these types of uses and better yet for sysops, an attempt
>to standardize their uses?

[snip!]

A few years back the sysops in the NY/NJ/CT region did just that, and it was
published as an ARRL Computer Networking Conference paper. That paper was
also sent out over packet and was posted to this mailing list.

If desired I can re-post the paper.

73, Andy

--

_____ Andrew Funk, KB7UV	
Tech Producer/Editor	Internet: kb7uv@panix.com
WCB5-TV Channel 2 News	http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/
New York, NY USA	--- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE ---

4. Re: [BBSSIG:481] Re: Routing

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Wed, 1 Feb 1995 21:14:41 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502020114.AA15053@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
>We use OR here in Oregon.
>
>It's easy to remember, you can find it in a standard US Post
>Office document, people don't forget it, folks anywhere can
>generally remember it, it is in everyone's hierarchical location,
>so it tends to be seen a lot ... gee! it just seemed *so* simple!
>

OK guys but I would hope that just using @OR was not the end of it.
We would use the heirarchal address on the bulletins like we do with the
Private Mail. So it would sent as :
SB OREGON @OR.OR.USA.NOAM
That way Sysops wont have to had G OR to their fwd files just to pass
on bulletins to Oregon, it would (should) be handled by the
H *.OR.* section of the fwd file thats used for mail.
Anyoone know this works for sure?

73 - Ron
velaic@velaic.pe.can.noam

5. Re: [BBSSIG:485] Re: Routing

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 1 Feb 95 17:58:17 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502011758.ZM4963@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 1, 7:25pm, Ron VE1AIC wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:485] Re: Routing
> >
> >We use OR here in Oregon.
> >
> >It's easy to remember, you can find it in a standard US Post

> >Office document, people don't forget it, folks anywhere can
> >generally remember it, it is in everyone's hierarchical location,
> >so it tends to be seen a lot ... gee! it just seemed *so* simple!
> >
>
> OK guys but I would hope that just using @OR was not the end of it.
> We would use the heirarchal address on the bulletins like we do with the
> Private Mail. So it would sent as :
> SB OREGON @OR.OR.USA.NOAM
> That way Sysops wont have to had G OR to their fwd files just to pass
> on bulletins to Oregon, it would (should) be handled by the
> H *.OR.* section of the fwd file thats used for mail.
> Anyone know this works for sure?
>

Yes, of course this is how it is done.
It for certain works with JNOS, RLI, MSYS, FBB, and NNA systems.

However, from inside Oregon, one does not need the hierarchical location, since the target distribution lives within Oregon.

>From outside Oregon (e.g. in NY) one would use (e.g.)

HELP@OR.OR

as a minumum address.

The simple way to explain it is to use the whole address:

HELP@OR.OR.USA.NOAM

We also use some regional addresses such as PDX (Portland Metro)
which would be addressed as:

CQ@PDX.OR.USA.NOAM

Yes, that "PDX" part is the standard airport designation for
Portland International Airport ... which designator one can
look up in the appropriate government publication.

So someone in a far away place like Gambia or the Canadian Maritimes
can send a bulletin targeted to folks in Oregon or in Portland
by knowing only information they can probably obtain locally.

(Well, locally in the Maritimes ... not sure about in Gambia).

Well, you might ask, how does this work for Vancouver, WA (Leaving aside
for now the fact that there is a somewhere better known Vancouver
up north in BC)? Vancouver is, network wise, "in" .OR.USA.NOAM.

Yup, you guessed it ... you might just send a bulletin to:
HELP@OR.WA.USA.NOAM ... and, if the good folks up in WA have
done their job, it will indeed land here in Oregon as expected.

And, in any case something addressed as

HELP.WA.WA.USA.NOAM

will also land here because we handle the border city distributions
reasonably ... as mentioned in a previous note.

One thing to point out, which is often misunderstood:

Distributions are inclusive instead of exclusive.

What that means is that a distribution of OR means "send this to every
place where folks in Oregon will read it". It does not mean "send this
only to bbs systems in Oregon". The key point here is that a distribution
is targeted to USERS and not to SYSTEMS. Thus systems located on or
near borders need to handle distributions for more than one region.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

Library Operations
"Parts 'R Us!"

6. RE: [BBSSIG:486] Re: Routing

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
Date: Wed, 01 Feb 1995 23:03:44 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <0098B5B0.86CD6920.11805@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Well,
Looks like we got something started here. I too handle "border traffic" as I am situated near the Delaware border. My main point is that Sysops know what the regions are but the word is not getting out to the users. Now I realized that any *responsible* user should just ask his sysop the appropriate designator for the desired region. This rarely happens especially with the new guys. What I believe we need to do is compile some sort of list by polling sysops (perhaps with an ALLUS bulletin ;->) and find out what regional or metro designators are in use, compile a list and post it periodically to the general packet population.

It would seem that as our philosophy is currently turning to a LAN packet system and radiating outwards from our LANs we should reinforce this philosophy by giving users the knowledge to radiate from these LANs in a responsible manner.....

Open to ideas.....

Jeff
KE4ARH

7. Re: [BBSSIG:486] Re: Routing

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Wed, 1 Feb 1995 21:06:05 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502012015.A7961-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 1 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Feb 1, 7:25pm, Ron VE1AIC wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:485] Re: Routing

> However, from inside Oregon, one does not need the hierarchical
> location, since the target distribution lives within Oregon.
> >From outside Oregon (e.g. in NY) one would use (e.g.)
> HELP@OR.OR
> as a minimum address.
> The simple way to explain it is to use the whole address:
>
> HELP@OR.OR.USA.NOAM

I've not looked deeply into this, but it seems there might be a problem dropping the h-address once you get into the state. H-addresses are typically sent to only one forwarding station, not like the @ field flood that would go to "everyone".

> CQ@PDX.OR.USA.NOAM
>
> Yes, that "PDX" part is the standard airport designation for
> Portland International Airport ... which designator one can
> look up in the appropriate government publication.

If you have access to such a publication. I've never seen one. However, for those curious, the weather underground telnet site is a good place to look them up on the net.

> Well, you might ask, how does this work for Vancouver, WA (Leaving aside
> for now the fact that there is a somewhere better known Vancouver
> up north in BC)? Vancouver is, network wise, "in" .OR.USA.NOAM.
>
> Yup, you guessed it ... you might just send a bulletin to:
> HELP@OR.WA.USA.NOAM ... and, if the good folks up in WA have
> done their job, it will indeed land here in Oregon as expected.
> And, in any case something addressed as
> HELP.WA.WA.USA.NOAM
> will also land here because we handle the border city distributions
> reasonably ... as mentioned in a previous note.

This is about the same thing I tried to get to work many years ago. People just can't be convinced to put enough entries in their forward files to properly handle traffic for the BBSes of the western part of this state. They do it with one entry that sends everything for Nebraska to the east end of the state, instead of noting that the west is not served by a network to the east and sending #WNE.NE to Colorado. When routed

through CO, it gets here much faster. I tried using @AG0N.NE.CO.USA and @AG0N.#WNE.NE.CO.USA. I believe it was Hank that came back and chewed me out for trying to use the H-address for routing instead of addressing.

I'm interested in anything that will allow the network to automatically send traffic addressed to user@AG0N to KT0H in Denver, where it will be sent up here within minutes or hours, instead of going by way of Omaha, Lincoln, Hastings, Kansas, to me, taking sometimes days. The fastest way for my users to get mail these days is to have it sent to user@KT0H. Dave then swaps it to my call and forwards it.

> One thing to point out, which is often misunderstood:
>
> Distributions are inclusive instead of exclusive.

How would something be sent to all stations in this end of the state without sending it to the rest of the state too (from afar) without it going to the east and being routed west from there?

> What that means is that a distribution of OR means "send this to every
> place where folks in Oregon will read it". It does not mean "send this
> only to bbs systems in Oregon". The key point here is that a distribution
> is targeted to USERS and not to SYSTEMS. Thus systems located on or
> near borders need to handle distributions for more than one region.

But targeting USERS in REGIONS, not STATES, is the desire.

The subject of my demise has been greatly exaggerated!
73, Gary (the ghost of)

8. Re: [BBSSIG:481] Re: Routing

From: vodall@mtewe.UUCP
Date: Wed, 1 Feb 1995 09:41:14 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rZi7H-0002fyC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> I must have a long neck ...

Chop... (Just kidding...)

> We use OR here in Oregon.
>
> It's easy to remember, you can find it in a standard US Post

I like that a lot..

In Montana they (we) use MTGB. After a while it's obvious that this is a "MonTana General Bulletin". Still it took me a month to find out what I should be using when I first moved back from Colorado.

> But, like other "simple" things (NOAM / NA comes to mind) I'd be willing
> to lay money at "interesting" odds that sysops *will* refuse to adopt
> this simple system* ... anyone want a bet?

My money is with you on that one.

While we're on other "simple" things. I just sent an ALL@MTGB bulletin suggesting that Montana adopt the "simpler" answer to the NOAM/NA debate. I suggested that we do like Colorado did and DROP BOTH from the end. Maybe the folks analyzing the packet traffic could find how many bytes in un-needed ".NOAM" and ".NA"'s passes our packet network.

> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam

(hopefully the packet address will soon be = wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa)

9. [BBSSIG:489] Re: Routing

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 95 07:02:04 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0ra38G-0000KIC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

which many already do, has on the overhead. There are some interesting numbers that are emerging from the analysis thus far. This means though dropping more than 2 * (number of line) in chars.

Greg

According to Roy Engehausen:

```
>
> In <m0rZi7H-0002fyC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us> writes:
> >...
> >While we're on other "simple" things. I just sent an ALL@MTGB bulletin
> >suggesting that Montana adopt the "simpler" answer to the NOAM/NA
> >debate. I suggested that we do like Colorado did and DROP BOTH from the
> >end. Maybe the folks analyzing the packet traffic could find how many
> >bytes in un-needed ".NOAM" and ".NA"'s passes our packet network.
> >...
>
> Flame on!!!
>
> Are you part of the problem or the solution???? I thought this group
> was backing the NOAM standard? Are we back to discussing this? No
> wonder what packet is stagnating and everyone is moving to Internet.
>
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>
```

12. Re: [BBSSIG:492] Re: Routing

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 95 10:14:58 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0ra5IG-0000TMC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The discussion up to this point has been about saving a couple of addressing bits and header lines. Well, we have gone to the next phase, the actual elimination of 'unnecessary' bulletins! Don't believe we can take credit for planning it that way, but our feed has dropped from an average of 300 per day down to 20 or so. Personal messages come through nicely. We also get a few AMSAT and ARRL bulletins.

This condition has existed for about 30 days now. What do the users say about this? Nothing! Apparently they could care less. As a side benefit, I'm seeing what appears to be more keyboard activity on the local channels. Too early to draw any solid conclusions but perhaps if other SYSOPS would experimentally curtail most of the bulletin traffic, we could get a definitive reading from the users.

73 de Jack

13. Re: [BBSSIG:487] Re: Routing

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 95 10:25:52 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502021025.ZM6074@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 1, 10:10pm, jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu wrote:

```
> Subject: [BBSSIG:487] Re: Routing
> Well,
> Looks like we got something started here. I too handle "border traffic" as
> I am situated near the Delaware border. My main point is that Sysops know
> what the regions are but the word is not getting out to the users. Now I
> realized that any *responsible* user should just ask his sysop the
appropriate
> designator for the desired region. This rarely happens especially with the
new
> guys. What I believe we need to do is compile some sort of list by polling
sysops (perhaps with an ALLUS bulletin ;-> ) and find out what regional or
metro
> designators are in use, compile a list and post it periodically to the
general
> packet population.
>
> It would seem that as our philosophy is currently turning to a LAN packet
> system and radiating outwards from our LANs we should reinforce this
> philosophy by giving users the knowledge to radiate from these LANs in a
> responsible manner.....
```

I hope that I can send:

SB HELP@DE.DE.USA.NOAM

to you and it will indeed target all the bbs systems that serve users in Delaware ... even if those systems are in VA or DC or MD ...

Seems to me this is such a simple solution we would be silly to adopt anything else ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

14. Re: [BBSSIG:488] Re: Routing

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 95 10:32:25 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502021032.ZM6140@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 1, 10:11pm, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:488] Re: Routing
>
>
> On Wed, 1 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:
>
> > On Feb 1, 7:25pm, Ron VE1AIC wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:485] Re: Routing
> >
> >
> > However, from inside Oregon, one does not need the hierarchical
> > location, since the target distribution lives within Oregon.
> > > From outside Oregon (e.g. in NY) one would use (e.g.)
> > HELP@OR.OR
> > as a mininum address.
> > The simple way to explain it is to use the whole address:
> >
> > HELP@OR.OR.USA.NOAM
> >
> I've not looked deeply into this, but it seems there might be a problem
> dropping the h-address once you get into the state. H-addresses are
> typically sent to only one forwarding station, not like the @ field flood
> that would go to "everyone".

No, there is no such problem, it works just fine.

...

> How would something be sent to all stations in this end of the state
> without sending it to the rest of the state too (from afar) without it
> going to the east and being routed west from there?
>
> > What that means is that a distribution of OR means "send this to every
> > place where folks in Oregon will read it". It does not mean "send this
> > only to bbs systems in Oregon". The key point here is that a distribution
> > is targeted to USERS and not to SYSTEMS. Thus systems located on or
> > near borders need to handle distributions for more than one region.
> >
> > But targeting USERS in REGIONS, not STATES, is the desire.

I've not heard that desire expressed by users, except with respect to large cites ... e.g. "I'll be in Chicago next month and want to go to any packet club meetings that might happen while I'm there."

The "inclusive" vs. "exclusive" rule solves most of these perceived problems: @ IL.IL.USA.NOAM does indeed cover Chicago. Yes, there will probably be some spillover into other areas of IL, but gee whiz folks, we would at least have *something* for the users to use instead of *nothing* for them to use, as we have now.

Ditto for NE ... if I wanted to ask some question about Omaha, NE.NE.USA.NOAM does cover Omaha (as probably does IA.IA.USA.NOAM

and MO.MO.USA.NOAM).

In my view the goal is **not** to reduce the level of traffic in the network - that is a different issue - but to provide the best possible level of service to the users. Once we have solved that problem, we can worry about doing it efficiently.

... Hank

>
> The subject of my demise has been greatly exaggerated!
> 73, Gary (the ghost of)
>-- End of excerpt from Gary McDuffie, Sr.

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.OR.USA.NOAM

15. Re: [BBSSIG:489] Re: Routing

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 95 10:36:09 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502021036.ZM6145@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 2, 6:58am, mtewe!vodall wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:489] Re: Routing
>
>
> > I must have a long neck ...
>
> Chop... (Just kidding...)
>
> > We use OR here in Oregon.
> >
> > It's easy to remember, you can find it in a standard US Post
>
> I like that a lot..
>
> In Montana they (we) use MTGB. After a while it's obvious that this
> is a "MonTana General Bulletin". Still it took me a month to find
> out what I should be using when I first moved back from Colorado.
>
> > But, like other "simple" things (NOAM / NA comes to mind) I'd be willing
> > to lay money at "interesting" odds that sysops **will* refuse to adopt
> > this simple system* ... anyone wanta bet?
>
> My money is with you on that one.
>
> While we're on other "simple" things. I just sent an ALL@MTGB bulletin
> suggesting that Montana adopt the "simpler" answer to the NOAM/NA
> debate. I suggested that we do like Colorado did and DROP BOTH from the
> end. Maybe the folks analyzing the packet traffic could find how many
> bytes in un-needed ".NOAM" and ".NA"'s passes our packet network.

There are two conflicting goals here.

1. To make things easy for users of network services.
(This includes making things easy for sysops!)
2. To do so efficiently.

Dropping the continental designator makes things **harder** for sysops outside your continent. So don't drop it, make things easy for them, they will love you for it.

"If it is not easy to use, it won't be used."

... Hank

(p.s. I've always wondered what WAGB and WWGB meant ...)

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

16. Re: [BBSSIG:490] Re: Routing

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 95 10:40:12 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502021040.ZM6150@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 2, 9:25am, Roy Engehausen wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:490] Re: Routing
> In <m0rZi7H-0002fyC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us> writes:
> >...
> >While we're on other "simple" things. I just sent an ALL@MTGB bulletin
> >suggesting that Montana adopt the "simpler" answer to the NOAM/NA
> >debate. I suggested that we do like Colorado did and DROP BOTH from the
> >end. Maybe the folks analyzing the packet traffic could find how many
> >bytes in un-needed ".NOAM" and ".NA"'s passes our packet network.
> >...
>
> Flame on!!!
>
> Are you part of the problem or the solution???? I thought this group
> was backing the NOAM standard? Are we back to discussing this? No
> wonder what packet is stagnating and everyone is moving to Internet.
>
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>-- End of excerpt from Roy Engehausen

*** Grab flamethrower off the rack behind my chair.
*** Turn knob to HIGH.
*** Push ignitor.
*** "Whooooosshhh"

Roy is SO RIGHT on this!
As I mentioned in my bulletin last December, starting in 1995
it WILL BE NOAM ... and that is now hard coded into my code.
At least those sysops who run RLI systems never even SEE any "NA"
anymore, it's just plain gonzo, history, done, finished, defunct.

*** Knob to off.
*** "Spizaaaap fzzzz glurp"
*** Grab rag and clean the nozzle.
*** Wipe drips off desk and chair.
*** Replace flame thrower in rack, snap the clips down.
*** "AH ... that felt good!"

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

17. Routes

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 1995 15:14:27 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950202144510.25035B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

My God guys, why are we running this train again? Here is a
packet radio bbs address:

w6xy@w5ab.nm.usa.noam

Where:

w6xy is the ham that should receive the message
w5ab is the pbbs that w6xy checks for mail
.usa tells us that w5ab is in the U.S.A.
.nm tells us that w5ab is in New Mexico, USA.

.noam keeps the dam thing from going to Nambia, or ??

Now it's stupid simple to see that this makes some kind of sense to our pbbs software. Even to people seeing the address it makes sense. Had I been given the job, the address would be backward like:

w6xy@w5ab.noam.usa.nm

Then if it is ever needed you just add stuff like:

w6xy@w5ab.noam.usa.nm.#seennm

But I didn't do it and it is "STANDARD" now and I sure want it to stay just as it is now...except...

I see all the big states needing to use #nwtx or like that. Why can't the 1 to 10 or so bbs sysops that get mail in the state just have a list in their pbbs to forward to ALL other pbbs? I do that now for NM and it is zero work. I spend 1 minute a month on learning about new pbbs.

In a big state like Texas there are what, a hundred pbbs? I don't know but I can find out. And bet there are about 10 that handle 100% of the mail in and out of the state. So it's a pain to start out with this idea at this time. But if it's done what happens? Well the address for Texas becomes .tx.usa.noam and for all 50 states the same. It makes things simple.

Simple is good. I love kiss.

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

18. Re: [BBSSIG:498] Re: Routing

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 95 14:28:59 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502021428.ZM7273@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 2, 4:15pm, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:498] Re: Routing
> On Thu, 2 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:
>
> > As I mentioned in my bulletin last December, starting in 1995
> > it WILL BE NOAM ... and that is now hard coded into my code.
> > At least those sysops who run RLI systems never even SEE any "NA"
> > anymore, it's just plain gonzo, history, done, finished, defunct.
>
> That's cool. What version did you start that in?

Well ... wouldn't want to say which version it was, since the idea was to see just how much hate mail was generated when folks started noticing. They never noticed!

>
> Right now, I have had mine changed to NOAM for months now. I definally
> think it's for the better, and I'm glad that we came to an agreement on it.
>
> As for flood designators, we've had some ideas, lets start using them...
>
> I know I can change bulletins from one flood designator to another...
> I'm sure most software can too...
>
> So, if you want to standarize, let's get the ideas back out on the
> "table" and start working the details out.
>
> My idea: State flood designator are state mail abbreviations.
> ie. Pa is PA.

Great idea!

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

19. Re: [BBSSIG:499] Routes

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 1995 17:48:47 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502021752.Q15072-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 2 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> I see all the big states needing to use #nwtx or like that. Why
> can't the 1 to 10 or so bbs sysops that get mail in the state just have a
> list in their pbbs to forward to ALL other pbbs? I do that now for NM and
> it is zero work. I spend 1 minute a month on learning about new pbbs.

Real good, except that in Tampa, for instance, there are twice that many
JUST in Tampa. Hundreds in the state, with more every day, it seems.

We use #TPA.FL.USA.NOAM. If a new bbs comes up in Tampa, NO ONE needs to
change ANYTHING, since #TPA is routed to Tampa, for local distribution.
Using the method you propose, several hundred sysops would have to set up
manually routes each time a BBS is added.

Not good!

Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }

20. Re: [BBSSIG:499] Routes

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 1995 17:15:01 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502022315.RAA20172@Kay-Abernathy.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl -- I believe everyone is talking about flood distributions now.

Do I have that right everyone from just monitoring the channel :-)

Greg

According to Klarsen:

>
> My God guys, why are we running this train again? Here is a
> packet radio bbs address:
>
> w6xy@w5ab.nm.usa.noam
>
> Where:
> w6xy is the ham that should receive the message
> w5ab is the pbbs that w6xy checks for mail
> .usa tells us that w5ab is in the U.S.A.
> .nm tells us that w5ab is in New Mexico, USA.
> .noam keeps the dam thing from going to Nambia, or ??
>
> Now it's stupid simple to see that this makes some kind of sense
> to our pbbs software. Even to people seeing the address it makes sense.
> Had I been given the job, the address would be backward like:
>
> w6xy@w5ab.noam.usa.nm
>

```

> Then if it is ever needed you just add stuff like:
>
>     w6xy@w5ab.noam.usa.nm.#seennm
>
> But I didn't do it and it is "STANDARD" now and I sure want it to stay
> just as it is now...except...
>
>     I see all the big states needing to use #nwtx or like that. Why
> can't the 1 to 10 or so bbs sysops that get mail in the state just have a
> list in their pbbs to forward to ALL other pbbs? I do that now for NM and
> it is zero work. I spend 1 minute a month on learning about new pbbs.
>
>     In a big state like Texas there are what, a hundred pbbs? I don't
> know but I can find out. And bet there are about 10 that handle 100% of
> the mail in and out of the state. So it's a pain to start out with this
> idea at this time. But if it's done what happens? Well the address for
> Texas becomes .tx.usa.noam and for all 50 states the same. It makes
> things simple.
>
>     Simple is good. I love kiss.
>
>
>
> *****
> * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na    k5di.ampr.org    k5di@acca.nmsu.edu    *
> *
> * The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM      Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet    *
> * Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C           Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12    *
> *
> * Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory                *
> *
> *****
>
>
>
>
>

```

21. Re: [BBSSIG:502] Re: Routes

```

From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 1995 18:27:45 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <ab57448c14021004356d@[129.46.12.181]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

```

And look what's happening out here in CA.
WB6PKK@KJ6VC.#SOCA.CA.USA.NOAM
      ^---^----- Isn't there something a little
redundant here?
Marvin

```

```

At 3:25 PM 2/2/95, Greg Jones wrote:
>Karl -- I believe everyone is talking about flood distributions now.
>
>Do I have that right everyone from just monitoring the channel :- )
>
>Greg
>
>According to Klarsen:
>>
>>     My God guys, why are we running this train again? Here is a
>> packet radio bbs address:
>>
>>         w6xy@w5ab.nm.usa.noam
>>
>>     Where:
>>         w6xy is the ham that should receive the message
>>         w5ab is the pbbs that w6xy checks for mail
>>         .usa tells us that w5ab is in the U.S.A.
>>         .nm tells us that w5ab is in New Mexico, USA.
>>         .noam keeps the dam thing from going to Nambia, or ??
>>
>>     Now it's stupid simple to see that this makes some kind of sense
>> to our pbbs software. Even to people seeing the address it makes sense.
>> Had I been given the job, the address would be backward like:
>>
>>         w6xy@w5ab.noam.usa.nm
>>

```

```

>> Then if it is ever needed you just add stuff like:
>>
>>      w6xy@w5ab.noam.usa.nm.#seenm
>>
>> But I didn't do it and it is "STANDARD" now and I sure want it to stay
>> just as it is now...except...
>>
>>      I see all the big states needing to use #nwtx or like that. Why
>> can't the 1 to 10 or so bbs sysops that get mail in the state just have a
>> list in their pbbs to forward to ALL other pbbs? I do that now for NM and
>> it is zero work. I spend 1 minute a month on learning about new pbbs.
>>
>>      In a big state like Texas there are what, a hundred pbbs? I don't
>> know but I can find out. And bet there are about 10 that handle 100% of
>> the mail in and out of the state. So it's a pain to start out with this
>> idea at this time. But if it's done what happens? Well the address for
>> Texas becomes .tx.usa.noam and for all 50 states the same. It makes
>> things simple.
>>
>>      Simple is good. I love kiss.
>>
>>
>>
>> *****
>> * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
>> *
>> * The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
>> * Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
>> *
>> * Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
>> *
>> *****
>>
>>
>>
>>
>>

```

22. [BBSSIG:503] Re: Routes

```

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Thu, 2 Feb 95 18:40:31 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0raE2B-0000deC@dptspd.sat.datapoint.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In <ab57448c14021004356d@[129.46.12.181]> Marvin Munster x5388 writes:
>And look what's happening out here in CA.
>      WB6PKK@KJ6VC.#50CA.CA.USA.NOAM
>      ^---^----- Isn't there something a little
>redundant here?
>Marvin
>

```

Older code checked each "token" individually so they all had to be unique. #50.TX and #50.CA would both match #50. Not sure any of that code is still around.

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

23. Re: [BBSSIG:501] Re: Routes

```

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 1995 05:32:19 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950203051845.8520A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 2 Feb 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

> On Thu, 2 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:
>
> >      I see all the big states needing to use #nwtx or like that. Why
> > can't the 1 to 10 or so bbs sysops that get mail in the state just have a
> > list in their pbbs to forward to ALL other pbbs? I do that now for NM and
> > it is zero work. I spend 1 minute a month on learning about new pbbs.
>
> Real good, except that in Tampa, for instance, there are twice that many
> JUST in Tampa. Hundreds in the state, with more every day, it seems.
>
> We use #TPA.FL.USA.NOAM. If a new bbs comes up in Tampa, NO ONE needs to

```


> change ANYTHING, since #TPA is routed to Tampa, for local distribution.

Not so Brian! The guys in Tampa must ALL put the new bbs manually into their bbs, just as I do now for the whole state.

> Using the method you propose, several hundred sysops would have to set up
> manually routes each time a BBS is added.
>

Not so. The ten guys gateway to FL must have all your routes so they can get mail to you all. Now they get it closer by a forward to 1 bbs in the #tampa area. I forward with my system the same way, but with no #albq or #farmington required. I KNOW how to reach Farmington. I forward to Ruidosa and let Mike get it to Albq. There John knows to get it to Bruce in Farmington.

There are now 3 or 4 bbs in Albq, but to reach them I just tell fbb to send them up to John. He gets them to the other guys.

Sure the problem is that the bbs sysops didn't want to talk. They ALL wanted to be gateways to the world, the heck with a network...

> Not good!
>
> -----
> Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com
>
> REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
> while (memory_available) {
> eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
> if (feel_like_it)
> make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
> gates_bank_balance++;
> }
>
>
>
>
73, karl k5di

24. Re: [BBSSIG:502] Re: Routes

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 1995 05:38:18 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950203053327.8520B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 2 Feb 1995, Greg Jones wrote:

> Karl -- I believe everyone is talking about flood distributions now.
>
> Do I have that right everyone from just monitoring the channel :-)
>
> Greg

Greg, I worry that the thread is based on flooding a state and that is related to how we forward mail. True flood of bulletins is just that, flood. But REMOTE flood of a state only is another thing altogether and will involve the mail address somehow...:-)

73, de karl k5di

25. Re: [BBSSIG:490] Re: Routing

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 95 7:20:38 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502031320.AA118529@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> In <m0rZi7H-0002fyC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us> writes:
> >...
> >While we're on other "simple" things. I just sent an ALL@MTGB bulletin
> >suggesting that Montana adopt the "simpler" answer to the NOAM/NA
> >debate. I suggested that we do like Colorado did and DROP BOTH from the
> >end. Maybe the folks analyzing the packet traffic could find how many

```

> >bytes in un-needed ".NOAM" and ".NA"'s passes our packet network.
> >...
>
> Flame on!!!
>
> Are you part of the problem or the solution???? I thought this group
> was backing the NOAM standard? Are we back to discussing this? No
> wonder what packet is stagnating and everyone is moving to Internet.
>
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>
Many folks haven't heard of TAPR's endorsement for the hierarchical
address standard. And that is to be expected. It will be a slow
process of adoption as new folks become sysops and older ones put aside
the emotional attachment to the way things 'were always done' and
consider rational reasons for making a change. the dropping of the
continent in an address is akin to dropping the state from the address
of an envelope for mailing within a state. It makes sense from a purely
logical point of view and will likely get delivered, but it takes extra
effort to do so. Like it takes extra forwarding file entries to handle
exceptions when a convention isn't followed.

```

Speaking of conventions, the hierarchical address deal with NOAM will be rolled out at the TAPR Annual meeting and a push will follow to see that it gets distribution in the ham press. It will take a couple of years to get circulated, but as we become more integrated with the Internet, people will see the virtues of the TAPR addressing scheme. That's my prediction. Never expected to see people embrace such a 'radical' idea overnight. ;-}

Dave W05H

26. Re: [BBSSIG:505] Re: Routes

```

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 1995 10:25:11 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502031054.N20477-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

On Fri, 3 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

```

>
>
> On Thu, 2 Feb 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:
>
> > On Thu, 2 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:
> >
> > > I see all the big states needing to use #nwtx or like that. Why
> > > can't the 1 to 10 or so bbs sysops that get mail in the state just have a
> > > list in their pbbs to forward to ALL other pbbs? I do that now for NM and
> > > it is zero work. I spend 1 minute a month on learning about new pbbs.
> >
> > Real good, except that in Tampa, for instance, there are twice that many
> > JUST in Tampa. Hundreds in the state, with more every day, it seems.
> >
> > We use #TPA.FL.USA.NOAM. If a new bbs comes up in Tampa, NO ONE needs to
> > change ANYTHING, since #TPA is routed to Tampa, for local distribution.
>
>
> Not so Brian! The guys in Tampa must ALL put the new bbs manually
> into their bbs, just as I do now for the whole state.

```

Wrong again! We have our BBS forwarding organized with about three primary forwarders. All the others can send all of their traffic to one of the 'router' BBSs.

But you seem to have missed my point. EVEN IF all Tampa BBSs needed to add a TPA bbs when they come up, those outside of Tampa NEVER need to do this. I don't have to know about ANY FL BBSs by name, other than the ones I directly talk to. Aside from that, the '#xxx' will suffice.

```

> > Using the method you propose, several hundred sysops would have to set up
> > manually routes each time a BBS is added.
> >
>
> Not so. The ten guys gateway to FL must have all your routes so
> they can get mail to you all. Now they get it closer by a forward to 1
> bbs in the #tampa area. I forward with my system the same way, but with

```

```
> no #albq or #farmington required. I KNOW how to reach Farmington. I
> forward to Ruidosa and let Mike get it to Albq. There John knows to get
> it to Bruce in Farmington.
>
>     There are now 3 or 4 bbs in Albq, but to reach them I just tell
> fbb to send them up to John. He gets them to the other guys.
>
>     Sure the problem is that the bbs sysops didn't want to talk. They
> ALL wanted to be gateways to the world, the heck with a network...
>
```

We're not TALKING about being gateways, but being efficient. Suppose you get a message for a "new" bbs that simply has the state. WHERE DO you send it. I'll tell you where. Probably NOWHERE. It will sit on your board while you start sending messages out to the other sysops asking who knows about it.

Now me, I get a new bbs in #MIAMI, and there is no delay, no messages sent, no time wasted on my part. It goes to Miami. Let THEM handle it.

My system has been up for about three years, and since it was set up then, I have not added ONE BBS to my routing. Done once, and forgotten.

You seem to be looking at it from the gateway viewpoint only. If they were the ONLY ones that had to do it manually, it wouldn't be so bad. But that's not so. Someone at a small BBS in Jacksonville that wants to send to a small BBS in Miami STILL needs to know how to send it. By using regional descriptions this can be done once and forgotten.

Or you can do it your way, and keep fooling with it.

You see, I am basically LAZY. If I can place it on autopilot, that give me more time to PLAY ;-)

```
-----
Brian A. Lantz                                brian@lantz.com
```

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

27. RE: [BBSSIG:507] Re: Routing

```
From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Fri, 03 Feb 95 12:47:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F326CE8@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

```
> Many people haven't heard of TAPR's endorsement for the
> hierarchical address standard. And that's to be expected. It
> will be a slow process of adoption as new people become
> SysOps and older ones put aside the emotional attachment to
> the way things "were always done" and consider rational
> reasons for making a change...
>
> Speaking of conventions, the hierarchical address deal with
> NOAM will be rolled out at the TAPR Annual meeting and a push
> will follow to see that it gets distribution in the ham press. It will
> take a couple of years to get circulated, but as we become
> more integrated with the Internet, people will see the virtues of
> the TAPR addressing scheme...
```

Dave,

If you haven't already, may I suggest that you forward a complete explanatory text of the "new standard" to Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, who writes the Packet Perspective column in QST (horzepa@gdc.com) and to Jon Bloom, KE3Z, editor of QEX (jbloom@arrl.org). If they're able to publish it, this might go a long way to help spread the word and educate SysOps and PBBS users. (After all, nearly 200,000 amateurs receive QST every month!)

---CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 "The World's Foremost Authority"
QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrl.org Amprnet ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

>

28. Re: [BBSSIG:509] Re: Routing

From: mmunster@qualcomm.com (Marvin Munster x5388)
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 1995 10:34:25 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <ab582762280210048040@[129.46.12.181]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Dave,

>

> If you haven't already, may I suggest that you forward a complete
>explanatory text of the "new standard" to Stan Horzepa, WAILLOU, who writes
>the Packet Perspective column in QST (horzepa@gdc.com) and to Jon Bloom,
>KE3Z, editor of QEX (jbloom@arrl.org). If they're able to publish it, this
>might go a long way to help spread the word and educate SysOps and PBBS
>users. (After all, nearly 200,000 amateurs receive QST every month!)

>

> ---CUL es 73 de BB

You might even send it to "Buck" Rodgers who writes for CQ. Don't have his
address handy, but he can be reached through CQ magazine.
Marvin

29. RE: [BBSSIG:487] Re: Routing

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Fri, 03 Feb 95 13:22:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F3274A5@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> ...My main point is that SysOps know what the regions are,
> but the word isn't getting out to the users. Now I realize that
> any *responsible* user should just ask his SysOp the appropriate
> designator for the desired region. This rarely happens,
> especially with the new guys. What I believe we need to do is
> compile some sort of list by polling SysOps (perhaps with an
> ALLUS bulletin ;->) and find out what regional or metro
> designators are in use, compile a list and post it
> periodically to the general packet population.

Jeff,

I suggest that, if the PBBS software supports it, every SysOp sets up his
station so that anything that originates on his machine and addressed using
the "SB" command is automatically held by the PBBS until the SysOp reviews
it to see if it appears to be addressed correctly (logically and sensibly,
eg, no SALE@USBBS if a guy is trying to unload a high-demand item that will
sell in a day or two within just his own state, etc). Also, I personally
believe that all PBBS users should have to read some kind of mandatory
information file before being able to post anything, personal or bulletins.
A brief, helpful text that tells how to address messages properly and how to
contact the SysOp for further guidance should be a standard feature on
amateur PBBSs. I see an amazing number of ALL@USBBS-type bulletins spewing
forth from local PBBSs, where the poster says something like, "I just got a
TNC and this is my first packet message. If anyone reads this, please let me
know! thanks and 73, etc..." Very sad. I know we don't see as many Elmers as
in the "olden days," so sometimes it's appropriate to take positive steps to
help newcomers learn the ropes so that they fit in smoothly and so that they
make the best use of the mode.

---CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 "The World's Foremost Authority"
QST Features Editor, ARRL HQ
Internet bbattles@arrl.org Amprnet ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

30. RE: [BBSSIG:511] Re: Routing

I, for one, do hold EVERYTHING that is initiated on my board. It is either that or passwording everyone. Now, if I merely educate everyone on my board as to the proper floods, I won't have to contact everyone to correct their improperly addressed bulletins. The problem is, I don't even know the proper floods for other states.....how should I expect them to

31. RE: [BBSSIG:510] Re: Routing

```

>
-----
--
> >If you haven't already, may I suggest that you forward a
> >complete explanatory text of the "new standard" to Stan
> >Horzepa, WA1LOU, who writes the Packet Perspective
> >column in QST (horzepa@gdc.com) and to Jon Bloom,
> >KE3Z, editor of QEX (jbbloom@arrl.org). If they're able to
> >publish it, this might go a long way to help spread the word
> >and educate SysOps and PBBS users. (After all, nearly
> >200,000 amateurs receive QST every month!)
> >
> > ---CUL es 73 de BB
>
> You might even send it to "Buck" Rodgers who writes for CQ.
> Don't have his address handy, but he can be reached through
> CQ magazine.
>
> Marvin

Yes, I understand that occasionally a few people sometimes read that, too.
8-)
```

32. Re: [BBSSIG:507] Re: Routing

On Fri, 3 Feb 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

Lots removed.....

```
>
> Many folks haven't heard of TAPR's endorsement for the hierarchical
> address standard. And that is to be expected. It will be a slow
> process of adoption as new folks become sysops and older ones put aside
> the emotional attachment to the way things 'were always done' and
> consider rational reasons for making a change.
```

There is no rational reason for dropping .na and going to .noam but I and many have said crumbum if the guys who do more for packet radio than I do bombard me with mail, I just do IT.

```

> the dropping of the
> continent in an address is akin to dropping the state from the address
> of an envelope for mailing within a state. It makes sense from a purely
> logical point of view and will likely get delivered, but it takes extra
> effort to do so. Like it takes extra forwarding file entries to handle
> exceptions when a convention isn't followed.
>

```

Yes there MUST be convention that has everybody (almost) doing the same thing the same way. Otherwise the pbbs mail goes no-where.

> Speaking of conventions, the hierarchical address deal with NOAM will be
> rolled out at the TAPR Annual meeting and a push will follow to see that
> it gets distribution in the ham press. It will take a couple of years
> to get circulated, but as we become more integrated with the Internet,
> people will see the virtues of the TAPR addressing scheme. That's my
> prediction. Never expected to see people embrace such a 'radical' idea
> overnight. ;-}

Dave try and do away with #stx and like that. Now that is
RADICAL!!! But all you need do is think about better ways to do things
and it comes out.

Be fun to see how many pbbs have and use the White Pages. I
didn't for some time as I didn't know how powerful this function is. But
it is not often discussed here or in sysop mail on the pbbs network.

To stay on topic the WP helps 'routing'...:-)

>
> Dave W05H
>

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
* *
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
* *
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
* *
*****
```

33. Duplicates

From: Jeff Stevenson <jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Date: Sat, 04 Feb 1995 10:36:24 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098B7A3.9F60E760.24335@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Guys,
What does everyone do about duplicate messages but with different flood
designators? What I am talking about is two messages from the same Ham-one
to ALLUS and one to USBBS and occasionally the SAME message to USA also.

MSYS traps these and holds them. Out of about every 300 messages I get about
20 of this duplicates that MSYS says have the same title and from call as another message. The
temptation is to kill them, but I know that would not be the
right thing to do. The other temptation is to change the designator to one
that I think it should be, but that is not right.

As I am want to do, I tried to think of the root cause of the problem. In my
opinion the users are doing this to ensure that their message gets to the max-
imum number of boards because some may not use ALLUS or USBBS. I *think* that
most sysops have all three floods in their files, so again it is a matter of
educating the users.

Some may say that this is not such a big deal but it is a horribly inefficient
way of doing things.

If we can find out if most sysops use all three then someone can put out a
notice (perhaps to ALLUS, USA, and USBBS) stating that it is not necessary
to use three different messages to say the same thing.

Jeff
KE4ARH

34. Re: [BBSSIG:513] Re: Routing

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 1995 11:32:48 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950204113033.4273B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 3 Feb 1995, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:

> Yes, I understand that occasionally a few people sometimes read that, too.
> 8-)

Yes, I'll admit it, I subscribe to QST, and I swipe my Elmer's copy of CQ for the packet column. Buck is a good writer, but I can't justify myself getting the magazine for one article each month...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

35. MSYS1.18

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 1995 11:37:56 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502041139.A5556-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I saw some time back that 1.18 was out and available, but there was never a mention of an ftp site for it. If anyone has one, drop me a note. No reason to take up net time for it any more than this inquiry. Just a note with an address to ftp from would be nice.

Thanks and 73,
Gary

36. Revision 2, User Manual.

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 1995 14:04:32 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950204140237.11657A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ok, Here is the next revision. it's basically the same as what Brian did, but I changed the order so that the sections are together.

Please review, and suggest some changes if needed. Thanks!

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

How to Use a Packet BBS
By Karl Larsen, K5DI

CBBS modifications to text
by Bill Barnes, N3JIX

And a few more modifications
by Brian Battles, WS10

GETTING STARTED: All ham radio PBBSs are easy to check into and get registered as a user. The first thing to do is locate the PBBS nearest you because you'll get faster service from the closest PBBS. Connect to this PBBS just like you do any other station; on 145.07 MHz, do a C N3JIX or C BBSJIX to get to my PBBS. (BBSJIX is an alias for my packet BBS. Not all PBBSs have aliases.)

REGISTER: On your first connection to the PBBS, it will ask for your first name, location, ZIP code and "home" PBBS. The text will look something like this:

```
*** Please Enter N (name) to enter your first NAME.
*** Please Enter NH (call sign) to enter the call sign of your MAIL (HOME)
PBBS.
*** Please Enter NZ (zip) to enter your ZIP code.
*** Please Enter NQ (town) to enter your QTH.
```

To enter your Name, give the command:

N <your first name>

To enter your QTH:
NQ <Your town>

To enter your ZIP code:
NZ <Your ZIP code>

To enter your Home PBBS:
NH <the call sign of the PBBS you check into the most>

HOME PBBS: I hope you pick N3JIX for your home PBBS! (If not, that's okay.) Any mail that arrives for you on whatever PBBS you enter will be here. The home PBBS info is for the SysOp to route personal mail to the PBBS you check into the most. It has to be a "real" full-service packet BBS system that relays messages and bulletins as part of the national PBBS network, not just a local TNC "mailbox."

MAIL: You'll want to exchange mail with other packet users. For example, if your brother, W6XX, is in Los Angeles and uses a PBBS there, N6XXX, if you just type sp w6xx@n6xxx this PBBS will check a big table of data, and should find n6xxx and finish the address to him. If your brother just got on the air, his local PBBS may not be in the data base, so he'll need to get his complete packet BBS address to you--at least his call sign and the call sign of the packet BBS he checks into. This way your local PBBS (this one) can route mail to him correctly.

If you use my packet BBS, your complete packet BBS address is <your call sign>@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam. As an example, if your call sign was KC5ABC, your address would be kc5abc@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam.

When you send him your address, he'll be able to send you mail immediately (there's a time delay between mail sent from one coast to the other, however; from here to New York state is about 4 hours. Here to other places in the state should take less time. Here to Alaska? Try it and let me know... {Grin})

Some basic mail commands are listed below:

KM : KILL all messages to you that you have read.
LM : LIST all messages to you.
RM : Read all messages to you.
RN : Read all NEW messages to you.
S : SEND a message.
SP : SEND a "personal" message.
T : "Talk" to SysOp.
B : Bye (disconnect).

BULLETINS: Every day this PBBS gets a lot of bulletins on many topics. They come from all over the world, via 2 other PBBSs that forward data with me. Most hams just connect to this PBBS and type L to list every bulletin they haven't seen since the last time they logged in. This is easy, but can waste time. The PBBS software has filters you can use to list only bulletins you have an interest in. Here's a list of commands you can use to help:

L : lists all new messages since you last issued an L command.
LB : lists only bulletins.
LL 10 : lists the last 10 messages in the mailbox [List Last].
LS [Text] : lists messages with [text] in the subject.
L< [call sign] : lists messages FROM [call sign].
L> [call sign] : lists messages TO [call sign].
L@ [call sign] : lists messages @[call sign].
L [message#]- : lists ONLY messages with higher number than [message#].

The LS commands are powerful; for example, if you want to list only the message(s) that have the word "exam" in the title of the message, type LS exam and the PBBS will list only those. I like to read AMSAT bulletins, so I type:
LS AMSAT
to see all the AMSAT bulletins I can read.

IMPORTANT! Sending Bulletins: You can send a bulletin (ie, a message addressed to one or many PBBSs, that can be read by all PBBS users. Type the SB (Send Bulletin) command, followed by an appropriate "addressee" and address for distribution. Be sure your Subject line makes the contents as clear as possible. PLEASE BE CAREFUL AND THOUGHTFUL: A lot of amateurs unnecessarily "clog up" the national PBBS network with bulletins addressed to such destinations as ALL@USBBS, etc. The problem with this is that the

@USBBS distribution means that EVERY PBBS in the country will receive a copy of this bulletin--is that REALLY necessary or appropriate? Think! Also, why send a message to ALL? Your intended audience will be much more likely to look at your message if its address has some descriptive meaning--and many amateurs don't even look at anything addressed to ALL. Some standardized addresses used on the packet BBS network include SALE, WANTED, HELP, TCPIP, OS2, FEST, EXAM, DX, QSL, CLASS, CLUBS, SATS, EVENT and so forth; look at a list of bulletins here to get an idea of what others are commonly used. And ALWAYS write something useful in the Subject line--let people know what your bulletin contains! Here are some examples of the WORST kind of packet bulletins:

```
45233    324  ALL@USBBS    950303  DOES ANYONE KNOW THIS
45234    645  HELP@USBBS   950404  Help
45235    775  CQ@WW       950403  CQ
```

Here's an example of a well-addressed bulletin:

```
45236    356  WANTED@PABBS 950303  Need manual for ICOM IC-751
45237    265  HELP@PABBS   950304  What's my grid square?
45238    454  FEST@PABBS   950404  Hamfest in Podunk PA Mar 19
```

OTHER: The PBBS has other parts that are useful for all users to know.

```
W           : What? Shows a listing of file areas
W(letter)   : Shows the directory listing of a file area
D(letter) (Filename) : Displays a file. You can save this file or print it.
U(letter) (filename) : Upload a file. Lets you send a text file to add to
the PBBS File area.
```

For example, you send:

W

The PBBS responds with:

Use W and directory ID (ie, WA);

```
A --> General Information.      B --> IBM & Compatibles Utilities.
C --> IBM & Compatibles Programs. D --> District 8 ARES Info & Programs
```

You send:

WA

The PBBS responds with:

```
9600.EPA      1K | KEPS.NEW      4K | SATS.MHZ      2K
CATVFREQ.LST  4K | PA.BBS       5K | SKYWARN.NEW    4K
COAX.TXT      2K | PACKET.NEW   7K
```

Let's say you want the file called COAX.TXT. You'd enter:

da coax.txt

And the PBBS will send it to you to read, save or print.

NE: Changes your prompt from long prompt to short prompt (or back). This will change your prompt from:

For example: You call is K3ZZZ, the prompt would look like:

K3ZZZ de N3JIX: [User 1] (?,B,C,CB,D,H,I,J,K,L,M,N,P,R,S,T,U,V,W) =>

to

(1) K3ZZZ de N3JIX=>

This may be useful if you don't want to see the longer command line, and you want to avoid the four line connect message everytime you connect. (The NE command will turn that off too...)

```
I : Info on the PBBS.
H : General Help
H (Command) : Detailed help on a specific command.
J : Shows ports on the PBBS Window that you are using.
JZ : Shows stations that connected to this port of the PBBS and the times.
V : Version of the PBBS software.
P (call sign) : Shows info about other users.
CB (call sign) : Access the North American call book.
```

example of the call book:

CB n3jix

will return the QSL information for me. It's useful when you're state hunting and didn't get the contact's QSL information.

If you want advice on the finer points of addressing bulletins, mail, or anything else that I may be able to help you with, please send me a note on the bbs. The command is:
sp n3jix

Make my PBBS your source of information and worldwide mail. I'll watch you use it and grin from ear to ear!
--73 de Karl, k5di@k5di.nm.usa.noam

Agreed, Learn, Play and Enjoy!
--73, de Bill, n3jix@n3jix.epa.pa.usa.noam

Disclaimer: This text was originally created by Karl, K5DI. If you wish to modify it, please ask him. If it's okay with him, it's more than okay with me!
--N3JIX

37. Nuclear Winter

From: vodall@mtewe.UUCP
Date: Fri, 3 Feb 1995 11:42:19 -0700 (MST)
To: BBSSIG TAPR <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <m0raSxa-0002gQC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Normally this time of year in Montana a few flames would be appreciated. But with the summer weather (> 50F) we've been having I had to get out my asbestos underwear...

My statement that ignited the flames:

> >While we're on other "simple" things. I just sent an ALL@MTGB bulletin
> >suggesting that Montana adopt the "simpler" answer to the NOAM/NA
> >debate. I suggested that we do like Colorado did and DROP BOTH from the
> >end. Maybe the folks analyzing the packet traffic could find how many
> >bytes in un-needed ".NOAM" and ".NA"'s passes our packet network.

And the replies:

> I thought this group was backing the NOAM standard?

It is and I was! I originally brought up the idea with my Colorado friend because I believed they were still using "Nambia" as their continental designator.

> Are we back to discussing this? No wonder what packet is stagnating

There is (IMHO) no discussion left on the NOAM/NA issue. But, now we've decided there is a standard, does that mean we should never bring up or mention new ideas to possibly simplify things further? That's stagnation!

> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

> If someone is SO CONCERNED about how many bytes are passing through
> their part of the network that a proper addressing scheme seems
> unreasonable, then they should PROBABLY look at shutting it down. Or
> censoring their users. Or forbidding BEACONS. Or not accepting/passing
> FORSALE or WANT traffic. Or not accepting/passing any "ALL@USA" traffic.
>
> Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

A properly built network will easily pass all the traffic (and beacons and signatures) that we put on it. If it doesn't - then we need to fix the network...

However;

The savings of removing ".NA" is 3 bytes per R: line or 5 bytes per ".NOAM" entry. With the size of some headers I've seen that would cut a surprising number of bytes of data from the system. Giving us

an increase in throughput for free!

(Messages * R:Lines * BBS's * US * 1Day * (5|3)) == a large number.

Is it significant and worth working at? Nah! I think it's the least of our network problems.

> There are two conflicting goals here.

> 1. To make things easy for users of network services.

> (This includes making things easy for sysops!)

>

> 2. To do so efficiently.

I don't believe they are conflicting...

> Dropping the continental designator makes things *harder* for

> sysops outside your continent. So don't drop it, make things

> easy for them, they will love you for it.

How much more difficult would it be to route ".usa", ".can" and ".mex" instead of ".na"?

That last "NA" wasn't a typo...

In my local campaign to replace "NA" with "NOAM" I was told by one local sysop that he can't because the European stations that exchange mail with him HAVE TO use "NA". I believe it was because of some BBS software restriction.

Besides, is there some reason why they can't still use what ever they want for a continental designator (NA or NOAM) while we drop it completely in the continent?

I'd really like to hear what some SYSOP's outside of the U.S. think about this.

> "If it is not easy to use, it won't be used."

AMEN!

> *** Grab flamethrower off the rack behind my chair.

> *** Turn knob to HIGH.

> *** Push ignitor.

> *** "Whooooosshhh"

aaahhhhh....

"Warm at last. Shut the door - I'm warm at last"

Or something like that was from the "Cremation of Bobby McGee"...

> it WILL BE NOAM ... and that is now hard coded into my code.

Are you sure that's a good idea?

Would you like to be forced to use a convention because the programmer thought it was the best way. (Even if it is the best way?)

> At least those sysops who run RLI systems never even SEE any "NA"

> anymore, it's just plain gonzo, history, done, finished, defunct.

What happens if they're sending mail to Nambia?

> ... Hank

> My God guys, why are we running this train again? Here is a

> packet radio bbs address:

>

w6xy@w5ab.nm.usa.noam

>

> Where:

> w6xy is the ham that should receive the message

> w5ab is the pbbbs that w6xy checks for mail

> .usa tells us that w5ab is in the U.S.A.

> .nm tells us that w5ab is in New Mexico, USA.

> .noam keeps the dam thing from going to Nambia, or ??

Yes. Exactly. But....

That's a full address for w6xy. But when sending pkt-mail everything but the "w6xy" is there as a suggestion to the bbs on how to route the mail. It's optional. (In fact, I read recently that some BBS's will ignore it and use a White Page entry if one exists for the call.)

To make things as SIMPLE as possible a user should never have to type more of an address than is necessary.

If the White Pages are accurate then "w6xy" should work as an address.

If you're in NM, then "w6xy@w5ab" should be adequate.

If you're in the U.S. - then "w6xy@w5am.nm" should work.

and so on...

I sure hope that we aren't expected to type

w6xy@w5am.nm.usa.noam

to send a message to a local user on the same BBS because it's a standard.

> Simple is good. I love kiss.

KISS is good - KIS is better. :-)

> * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *

I'm crawling back into what's left of my igloo now...

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us

Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam

38. More on routing

From: vodall@mtewe.UUCP
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 1995 09:00:57 -0700 (MST)
To: BBSSIG TAPR <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <m0ramuz-0002gQC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us>
Rendered body type: text/plain

All this talk about routing has given me a couple ideas:

Wouldn't it be nice if we could enter a packet mail address that would, in effect, tell the system to not look at the white pages. I.e. My normal address is "wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam" and that's what the white page entries should show. But suppose I've visiting in Oregon and I want to get packet mail there. So mail to "wa7nwp@w0rli.or.usa.noam" might not work as the white pages could redirect it.

Similarly, wouldn't it be nice if we could specify the path, or at least the partial path, a message would take? Then we could do something like: "sp ag0n%ag0n.#swne.ne.usa.noam@kt0h.#neco.co.usa.noam" and the message would take the quickest route to Gary.

--

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us

Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam

39. Re: [BBSSIG:515] Duplicates

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 1995 16:17:48 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502042017.AA08882@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Hi Guys,
>What does everyone do about duplicate messages but with different flood
>designators? What I am talking about is two messages from the same Ham-one
>to ALLUS and one to USBBS and occasionally the SAME message to USA also.
>
(snip)
>If we can find out if most sysops use all three then someone can put out a
>notice (perhaps to ALLUS, USA, and USBBS) stating that it is not necessary
>to use three different messages to say the same thing.
>
>Jeff
>KE4ARH
>
>
Jeff I recommend changing the @BBS to a SINGLE standard, if the BBS's
you fwd to don't like it they can change it but hopefully there would
be some agreement among Sysops. You'll NEVER get the Users all in line tho.

The Users are probably confused by all the different variations, as you
suggest, they replicate the bulletins to be sure of coverage. If a listing
on your BBS showed a consistent @USA then it might help solve the problem.

In my FBB system I use SWAPP to change @ALLUS,USBBS or whatever other
variations into @USA. In the same way I change any @ALLCAN to @CANADA
so at least the BBS's I fwd to don't have to create a whole list
of addresses/routes to deal with.

73 - Ron
velaia@velaia.pe.can.noam

40. [BBSSIG:515] Duplicates

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 1995 22:49:02 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502041615053@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: Jeff Stevenson <jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
-> To: bbssig@tapr.org
-> Date: Sat, 4 Feb 1995 09:45:24 -0600
-> Subject: [BBSSIG:515] Duplicates
->
-> Hi Guys,
-> What does everyone do about duplicate messages but with different flo
-> designators? What I am talking about is two messages from the same H
-> to ALLUS and one to USBBS and occasionally the SAME message to USA als

About all you can do is hold them...If they are actually the same
message, then it sounds like the BID got changed somewhere along the
line. This is not normally too hard to track down. I'd suggest
checking the bids, maybe the ham sent it out 2 times. Then the problem
is education, there are multiple floods doing the same job...USBBS,
ALLBBS, ALLUSA, USA, ALLUS...We use @USA here in Arizona.

-> -> MSYS traps these and holds them. Out of about every
300 messages I g -> 20 of this duplicates that MSYS says have the same
title and from cal -> er message. The temptation is to kill them, but I
know that would no -> right thing to do. The other temptation is to
change the designator -> that I think it should be, but that is not
right. -> -> As I am want to do, I tried to think of the root cause of
the problem -> opinion the users are doing this to ensure that their
message gets to -> inum number of boards because some may not use ALLUS
or USBBS. I *th -> most sysops have all three floods in their files,
so again it is a ma -> educating the users. -> -> Some may say that
this is not such a big deal but it is a horribly in -> way of doing
things. -> -> If we can find out if most sysops use all three then
someone can put -> notice (perhaps to ALLUS, USA, and USBBS) stating
that it is not nece -> to use three different messages to say the same
thing. -> -> Jeff -> KE4ARH

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP
P.O. Box 45378
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85064-5378

Voice: +1-602-489-7384
Fax : +1-602-956-2566
BBS : +1-602-912-0225

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

41. Re: [BBSSIG:514] Re: Routing

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 95 20:10:45 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502050210.AA128418@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl, et al:

There has been some experimentation in Texas (and it continues) with the first three numbers from one's ZIP CODE in place of the mnemonic #STX, #ETX, etc. The folks are in the information-gathering stage with their effort, and I'm looking forward to hearing how it improves things. For one, it will eliminate the process of dividing up the states into groups of counties and assigning regions to them. I'll advise or some of the fellows who are doing the research will advise when more is forthcoming.

This part of the address is best determined on a local/regional basis.

Anyway, the topic think now, instead of beating that poor dead horse hierarchical addressing, is floods. Looks to me like Hank's method is simple, straightforward, and lets local/regional folks swap out the two-letter abbreviation to whatever they choose, once the bulletin enters their states.

As long as the repetition of the state abbreviation doesn't cause someone's software to choke, it looks great to me. If it's a matter of setting up forwarding/routing/whatever files to accept this, then we need to make these available for the major software programs and all will be kept happy.

Dave W05H

42. Re: [BBSSIG:519] Nuclear Winter

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 95 21:03:45 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502050303.AA128669@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

When a group of us sat down, in earnest, to discuss the matter of hierarchical addresses (this was at the Dayton 1994 BBS SIG meeting and follow-up discussion group the following evening), we discussed the possibility of doing away with the continental designator altogether. Great idea- the debate over NOAM and NA would be done away with instantly! Whoa! one of the group said. Think about the extra effort this will create for most sysops, as they must now make entries for every country in their forwarding/routing/whatever files. For a simple board (and many if not most fall into this category), all stuff not staying resident on the board gets handed off to one other station. Including a short list of continents and wildcards is a lot simpler than including a long list of countries with wildcards. We realized that the continental abbreviation plays an important role in keeping the forwarding files manageable and simple for many sysops. We couldn't recommend to get rid of it.

As we see packet move towards closer integration with the Internet (it sure doesn't look like we are disengaging, folks!), the need for friendly addressing schemes will be more important and apparent to those having to worry about the points of interconnection. Anything to make their tasks easier should be important considerations although we might be worrying about these issues for our own operations.

Come to think of it, anything we can do to facilitate each other's tasks, be it more standardized flood nomenclature, adoption of the X.3.4 hierarchical address recommendation, etc., is in the true spirit of advancing the art. Yep, let's talk about the issues, generate a little heat, and finally move forward after employing reason to overcome the problems that present themselves as this fantastic enterprise continues.

Dave W05H

43. Re: [BBSSIG:520] More on routing

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Sun, 5 Feb 1995 07:14:39 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950205070446.14413B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 4 Feb 1995 mteve!vodall@kazak wrote:

>
>
> All this talk about routing has given me a couple ideas:
>
> Wouldn't it be nice if we could enter a packet mail address
> that would, in effect, tell the system to not look at the
> white pages. I.e. My normal address is "wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam"
> and that's what the white page entries should show. But suppose
> I've visiting in Oregon and I want to get packet mail there. So
> mail to "wa7nwp@w0rli.or.usa.noam" might not work as the
> white pages could redirect it.

Bill I went through this problem with Gunar and Bev who live in Las Cruces part time and Ruidosa part time. Here they want there home bbs to be k5di. In Ruidosa they want the home bbs to show wb5nqc.

We tried all sorts of things but the simple solution works just fine. Just before leaving Cruces Gunar gets on k5di bbs and changes his home bbs to wb5nqc. When he gets to Ruidosa he gets on wb5nqc and changes the home bbs back to wb5nqc from the k5di he left last time.

This works the same day it is done. It is simple. It is VERY nice because the sysop's do nothing but watch it work...:-)

>
> Similarly, wouldn't it be nice if we could specify the path, or at
> least the partial path, a message would take? Then we could
> do something like: "sp ag0n%ag0n.#swne.ne.usa.noam@kt0h.#neco.co.usa.noam"
> and the message would take the quickest route to Gary.
>

Mixtures of smtp and pbbs address are doomed to unexpected results. I do forward from JN05 and you do get some interesting results while "tuning" the rewrite file...

> --
>
> Bill
>
> Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us
> Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam
>
>
>

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

44. Re: [BBSSIG:525] Re: More on routing

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Sun, 5 Feb 1995 13:26:17 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502051315.A9146-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 5 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

>

```

>
> On Sat, 4 Feb 1995 mtewe!vodall@kazak wrote:
>
> > I've visiting in Oregon and I want to get packet mail there. So
> > mail to "wa7nwp@w0rli.or.usa.noam" might not work as the
> > white pages could redirect it.
>
> Bill I went through this problem with Gunar and Bev who live in
> Las Cruces part time and Ruidosa part time. Here they want there home bbs
> to be k5di. In Ruidosa they want the home bbs to show wb5nqc.
>
> We tried all sorts of things but the simple solution works just
> fine. Just before leaving Cruces Gunar gets on k5di bbs and changes his
> home bbs to wb5nqc. When he gets to Ruidosa he gets on wb5nqc and changes
> the home bbs back to wb5nqc from the k5di he left last time.
>
> This works the same day it is done. It is simple. It is VERY nice
> because the sysop's do nothing but watch it work...:-)

```

That's because it is local. How many months does that information take to propagate through the system to New England, etc?

```

> > Similarly, wouldn't it be nice if we could specify the path, or at
> > least the partial path, a message would take? Then we could
> > do something like: "sp ag0n%ag0n.#swne.ne.usa.noam@kt0h.#neco.co.usa.noam"
> > and the message would take the quickest route to Gary.

```

This seems very lengthy and confusing. For the above case, and this is a different argument than the one for temporarily changing a home bbs, why wouldn't it work to parse the h-address so that ag0n@ag0n.kt0h.co.usa.no would work? I think some software will handle this now, but I don't think they all will. I would gladly change my h-address to the above permanently, if it would insure traffic would be delivered via the proper route. At the time, I have one user who is in KT0H's swap file so that he can receive timely mail (weeks faster) by the sender using KT0H as my user's @bbs address. Dave swaps it out and sends it to me. That's fine for one or two users, but what if I had 50 of them doing the same thing? This needs to be transparent and automatic. What would the negative effect of this scheme be? There would be no indication that I am not in Colorado. This could be a problem??

Gary - AG0N

45. Re: routes and areas

```

From: vodall@mtewe.UUCP
Date: Sat, 4 Feb 1995 09:59:56 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0ranq2-0002gQC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

```

> > On Thu, 2 Feb 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:
>
> Now me, I get a new bbs in #MIAMI, and there is no delay, no messages
> sent, no time wasted on my part. It goes to Miami. Let THEM handle it.
>

```

I probably shouldn't be foolish enough to come up a second new idea in one week. There's not much left of the igloo to protect me from the flames...

Why don't we take the regional routing one step further? Have a BBS named, or at least aliased, to the city or region? Call signs die, lose interest, burn out, flame out, etc... Then the routing has to be changed.

E.g. sp ko4ks@tpa.fl.usa.noam

```

> You see, I am basically LAZY. If I can place it on autopilot, that give
> me more time to PLAY ;-)

```

Me too...

```

> Brian A. Lantz
--

```

Bill

```

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam

```

46. [NETSIG:904] BPQ 4.08a (fwd)

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Mon, 6 Feb 95 7:16:37 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502061316.AA136789@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

forgive my cross-posting from NETSIG, folks, but thought this might be missed by some-- Can't wait to see what the OS/2 version of this code will do...

Dave W05H

Forwarded message:

> From: netsig@tapr.org Mon Feb 6 05:14:46 1995
> Date: Mon, 6 Feb 1995 05:14:10 -0600
> Message-Id: <v01510100ab5bc1614d13@[129.177.155.182]>
> Reply-To: netsig@tapr.org
> Originator: netsig@tapr.org
> Sender: netsig@tapr.org
> Precedence: bulk
> From: Richard.Saue@jur.uib.no (Richard Saue)
> To: netsig@tapr.org
> Subject: [NETSIG:904] BPQ 4.08a
> X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
> X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Networking SIG
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
>
> Hi!
>
> G8BPQ has released a new version of his code. Compared to 4.08, 4.08a has a beta
> for OS/2. I found the software on FTP://FTP.FUNET.FI
>
> 73 de Richard - LA4SGA
>
>
>

47. Hyphens in "TO" fields

From: imotion@iu.net (Howard Goldstein)
Date: Mon, 06 Feb 1995 12:07:51 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502061713.MAA17556@bb.iu.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'm working with the document entitled "Protocol Recommendations for the Interchange of Messages Between Amateur Radio Bulletin Board Systems", dated 9/1/93. This document defines a TO field as an ascii string <0x20..0x7f> except @ and '.'.

How do you "big bbs" system guys handle TO fields with hyphens in them? When a user enters a TO field like in "SP N2WX-1" do you pass it along in that format? What if he enters "SB LL-BBS"?

I patched my maildrop code to strip off anything after the hyphen (users love to use SSIDs in TO fields) but running into trouble now that my master bbs is sending me a bulletin addressed to LL-BBS.

Howie N2WX
imotion@iu.net

48. Re: [BBSSIG:529] Hyphens in "TO" fields

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 6 Feb 95 13:23:35 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502061323.ZM22282@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 6, 1:53pm, Howard Goldstein wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:529] Hyphens in "TO" fields
> I'm working with the document entitled "Protocol Recommendations for the Interchange of Messages Between Amateur Radio Bulletin Board Systems", dated 9/1/93. This document defines a TO field as an ascii string <0x20..0x7f> except @ and '.'.
>
> How do you "big bbs" system guys handle TO fields with hyphens in them?
> When a user enters a TO field like in "SP N2WX-1" do you pass it along in

> that format? What if he enters "SB LL-BBS"?

Yup, I just pass along whatever the user types ...

LL-BBS is perfectly ok, as are C-64, QSL-MG, and ALL-US
(saw those 1st three just this morning).

I do set my system up to forward, for example, KX7Q-1 to KX7Q ...
since folks often use his maildrop address instead of his call.
No big deal to do this, and it happens with only a very few users.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

49. BPQ & FBB Help Needed

From: jkbe@aluxs.att.com (John Bednar)
Date: Mon, 6 Feb 95 12:43:44 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502061743.AA07533@lana>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have a friend that is having trouble setting up FBB with BPQ. He has several TNC's on his BBS and he would like to limit the 1200 baud connects to one per frequency while allowing 3-4 connects on the higher speed user and forwarding ports. I believe he has five com ports and five TNC's on the BBS.

I'd appreciate if a few BBS operators with similar stations would send me their PORTS.SYS files as examples. With the current setup he can not limit the connects to individual TNC's. He is running one copy of FBB and he assumes it's not necessary to run multiple copies of FBB to accomplish this.

Thanks,
John
jkbe@aluxs.att.com

50. RE: [BBSSIG:527] Re: routes and areas

From: jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu
Date: Mon, 06 Feb 1995 18:35:43 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098B978.E9D9D140.1858@sae.ssu.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I don't know a whole lot about the details, but NEDA recommends using grid squares to identify a BBS. They are using it on an experimental basis in New York state. They say that the use of grid squares would eliminate the need for all of the other identifiers. I don't know how this (oops) this would fit into the Internet framework but it would work for simple packet use. Their suggested addresses would look like this:

KA2MSL.FN21XM

Jeff

51. Re: [BBSSIG:529] Hyphens in "TO" fields

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Mon, 6 Feb 95 22:00:30 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502070400.AA141274@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Howie, et al:

It hangs on my system until I look at it and manually take out the hyphen. I see one or two a year that have a hyphen originate on the board.

Dave W05H

52. Re: [BBSSIG:532] Re: routes and areas

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 7 Feb 1995 01:14:15 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502070121.A571-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 6 Feb 1995 jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu wrote:

> Their suggested addresses would look like this:
>
> KA2MSL.FN21XM
>
> Jeff
>

Please, not AGAIN!

Gary

53. Re: [BBSSIG:533] Re: Hyphens in "TO" fields

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 7 Feb 1995 01:18:44 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502070127.A571-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Just checked FBB (curiosity got me on the LL-BBS part). It will take the hyphen just fine. BUT... the total number of characters cannot exceed 6. For instance, N7MM-8 worked, but N7MMT-8 didn't work. It gave an error saying too many characters in the field. As far as I'm concerned, dropping the ssid should be automatic. I think it is on some software.

Gary (ghost)

54. Re: [BBSSIG:535] Re: Hyphens in "TO" fields

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 7 Feb 95 11:36:33 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502071136.ZM25700@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 7, 2:33am, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:535] Re: Hyphens in "TO" fields
>
> Just checked FBB (curiosity got me on the LL-BBS part). It will take the
> hyphen just fine. BUT... the total number of characters cannot exceed
> 6. For instance, N7MM-8 worked, but N7MMT-8 didn't work. It gave an
> error saying too many characters in the field. As far as I'm concerned,
> dropping the ssid should be automatic. I think it is on some software.

SSID? I thought we were discussing the use of the hyphen ('-') in addresses, particularly the To: field. An SSID is a network thing, not an email thing. Yes, I understand where the particular hyphens we are talking about come from (users entering a network address instead of a callsign when they send a message).

Let's not try and "solve" this problem by making the application "aware" of something that only the network needs to know about.

The "correct" solution certainly is to educate the users, and not to attempt to "fix" something that may not actually be an error.

We already have the problem of certain bbs codes changing the To: field the user intended: e.g. "C-64" becomes "C", "QSL-MG" becomes "QSL" etc.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

Library Operations
"Parts 'R Us!"

55. [BBSSIG:534] Re: routes a

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Tue, 7 Feb 1995 16:15:00 GMT

To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <95020712150623@phx-az.com>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
 -> To: bbssig@tapr.org
 -> Date: Tue, 7 Feb 1995 02:21:07 -0600
 -> Subject: [BBSSIG:534] Re: routes and areas
 ->
 ->
 ->
 -> On Mon, 6 Feb 1995 jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu wrote:
 ->
 -> > Their suggested addresses would look like this:
 -> >
 -> > KA2MSL.FN21XM
 -> >
 -> > Jeff
 -> >
 ->
 -> Please, not AGAIN!
 ->
 -> Gary

I agree, what does the gridsquare give us that @N7MRP.#JUNK.AZ.USA.NOAM doesn't?

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
 Arizona Network Intertie Group
 "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 45378	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-5378	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com
 Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

56. Routes overseas for Special Olympics?

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
 Date: Tue, 07 Feb 95 17:21:00 EST
 To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
 Message-ID: <2F37F26C@arrl.org>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

I'd like some advice from anyone who has some good ideas...

As you may know, Amateur Radio operators have been invited to participate in the largest sporting event in the world this year, the 1995 Special Olympics World Summer Games (June 28-Jul 9 in New Haven, Connecticut). All amateurs may participate, even hams outside the Games site who can greatly assist with what may be a huge volume of NTS radiogram traffic (via many modes, but mostly packet radio networks), and to make HF/VHF contacts with official special-event station W1SO.

Here's one area in which we especially need help and suggestions:

We're making arrangements to route a large amount of NTS traffic via Internet to several European countries where Internet-accessible hams there can receive and relay or deliver messages to countries where the US doesn't have third-party agreements. Peter Vekinis, KC1QF, An American ham in Brussels, even wants to try passing short messages recorded on site as digital .WAV sound files, to be relayed via TCP/IP from the site to the Internet and through his shack in Belgium for relay to other European hams who can then deliver the "voice-grams" by playing the files over the telephone to the recipients with Soundblaster cards!

We need to find packet/Internet outlets to Africa, Australia and the Pacific Rim. Not only do we need physical routes, we also need volunteer hams on the other end to accept the messages and help get them delivered.

Locally here, we expect to have 9600/1200-baud links from the site to nearby PBBSSs and a 56 k telco line to Connecticut TCP/IP guru Bill Lyman, N1NWP, who can shunt some mail to PBBSSs and some via his full-time Unix/Internet connection. We hope TCP/IP and the Internet will provide

valuable gateways to place traffic on US PBBs and in the hands of amateurs overseas.

It's a fairly ambitious undertaking, and we expect it to tax some of the digital networks somewhat like an emergency would. And a lot of the activity will affect hams--especially key packet/networking people--worldwide.

--CUL es 73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10, New Britain, CT USA
Amateur Radio Liaison, 1995 Special Olympics World Games
203-666-1541 (work), 203-827-9956 (home), 203-665-7531 (fax)
E-mail: bbattles@arrl.org (office), battles@ibm.net (home)
Packet: WS10@W1EDH.CT.USA.NOAM (AX.25)
ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org (TCP/IP)

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

57. Re: [BBSSIG:538] Routes overseas for Special Olympics?

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 7 Feb 95 15:16:41 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502071516.ZM26096@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 7, 4:47pm, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:538] Routes overseas for Special Olympics?
>

<deletia>

> Locally here, we expect to have 9600/1200-baud links from the site to
> nearby PBBs and a 56 k telco line to Connecticut TCP/IP guru Bill Lyman,
> N1NWP, who can shunt some mail to PBBs and some via his full-time
> Unix/Internet connection. We hope TCP/IP and the Internet will provide
> valuable gateways to place traffic on US PBBs and in the hands of amateurs
> overseas.

So if I understand this correctly, ham radio will be used to link from the site to the telephone company. Why not just use telco links right from the site? Doing so would avoid the delay of keying things into a computer, waiting for the messages to be forwarded, etc.

Unless I missed something, you expect that the US PBBs will somehow get the traffic from the internet and then ... do something with it.

Why not simply phone it in directly from the internet?
Anyone with an AOL, MCI, CIS, NETROM, etc. account could take the traffic off the internet and make the phone calls. Doesn't even require a ham license.

In fact, providing the hams with a few cell phones might make things work even better: the messages could be phoned directly to the target country, avoiding all delays and third party issues.

Even better, the ham could simply hand the cell phone to the person wishing to send the message. That person could then simply say the message directly to the intended recipient, avoiding ALL delays.

Perhaps I did not understand the goal of this undertaking.

> It's a fairly ambitious undertaking, and we expect it to tax some of the
> digital networks somewhat like an emergency would. And a lot of the activity
> will affect hams--especially key packet/networking people--worldwide.

>From your description of the way the system will be put together, the actual forwarding of the messages will occur via commercial means.
In what way will this "tax the digital networks"?

How much traffic do you estimate this activity to generate?

How will it be handled at the endpoints? Will NTS folks be assigned to the various BBS systems to collect and deliver the incoming traffic? Will traffic be handled in both directions?

As you might guess from the questions, I'm *so* confused about all this.

What is the goal of this activity, how will it showcase ham radio,
what benefit to the organization served ... ?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

58. Re: [BBSSIG:534] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 7 Feb 95 11:32:05 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502071132.ZM25695@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 7, 2:20am, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:534] Re: routes and areas
>
>
> On Mon, 6 Feb 1995 jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu wrote:
>
> > Their suggested addresses would look like this:
> >
> > KA2MSL.FN21XM
> >
> > Jeff
> >
> Please, not AGAIN!
>
> Gary

Seconded.

Let's just make this go away ... grid squares don't work,
aren't required, and only obfuscate the real issue.

Been through this a year ago.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

59. Re: [BBSSIG:536] Re: Hyphens in "TO" fields

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 7 Feb 1995 18:33:47 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502071836.A25838-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 7 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Feb 7, 2:33am, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:535] Re: Hyphens in "TO" fields
> >
> > Just checked FBB (curiosity got me on the LL-BBS part). It will take the
> > hyphen just fine. BUT... the total number of characters cannot exceed
> > 6. For instance, N7MM-8 worked, but N7MMT-8 didn't work. It gave an
> > error saying too many characters in the field. As far as I'm concerned,
> > dropping the ssid should be automatic. I think it is on some software.
>
> SSID? I thought we were discussing the use of the hyphen ('-')
> in addresses, particularly the To: field.

No, the original poster specifically asked about the use of ssids in the
TO field, reference his example. He then added the comment about the

other hyphenated "addresses".

> Let's not try and "solve" this problem by making the application
> "aware" of something that only the network needs to know about.

To a point, I agree. But, you can lead a horse to water, and still can't get him drunk. Some users don't want to learn. They don't want to listen to suggestions about how to do things. They come into it with preconceived ideas of how it works and how they are going to use it. Those users will do their own thing. When you try to change them, they scream. NO, most don't act that way, but some do. I only wonder if the software, should it be possible to determine whether the TO field is a callsign or an "interest" indicator, shouldn't drop the ssid when it exist. Maybe this would be too much effort in the code, I don't know. It is merely a suggestion. Too much freedom is inefficient. Force conformance in the addressing for a better network.

I still think the best suggestion is to handle mail completely separate from so-called bulletins. A bulletin would take a slightly different send line and software response than that of packet email. That would allow different modules to ask for different input from the sender. In the mailer, the callsign would be enforced and could contain no ssids or non alphanumeric characters. Bulletins would allow non-alphanumeric addresses (call it what you will), and ask for area to be flooded. Sound familiar? Sounds good to me.

> We already have the problem of certain bbs codes changing the To:
> field the user intended: e.g. "C-64" becomes "C", "QSL-MG"
> becomes "QSL" etc.

That's for sure.

Gary

60. Re: Hyphens in "TO" fields

From: imotion@iu.net (Howard Goldstein)
Date: Wed, 08 Feb 1995 11:53:39 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502081659.LAA01608@bb.iu.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf) writes:

>It hangs on my system until I look at it and manually take out the
>hyphen. I see one or two a year that have a hyphen originate on the
>board.

I wondered if others ran into wierdness too. Seems to be a conflict between ease of use and the arbitrary character set specified for the TO field.

Howie
imotion@iu.net

61. Re: [BBSSIG:538] Routes overs...

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 09:47:54 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: jim.ritterbusch@f1015.n141.z1.fidonet.org
Message-ID: <950208094749_16096944@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

WS10 sez:

>>Olympics World Summer Games (June 28-Jul 9 in New Haven, Connecticut). All
>>amateurs may participate, even hams outside the Games site who can greatly
>>assist with what may be a huge volume of NTS radiogram traffic (via many
>>modes, but mostly packet radio networks), and to make HF/VHF contacts with
>>official special-event station W1S0.

Actually, this thought of using "mostly packet radio networks" needs some further explanation so that people (particular on THIS sig!) will understand what the traffic handlers are proposing. In fact, we're going out of our way with this event (as we have with many many other high-volume events) to ensure that the AX.25 PBB systems are NOT clogged with our traffic.

However, if Brian was referring to local (Connecticut) TCP/IP networks, then, yes, I agree that we're definitely going to be hitting THEM up pretty hard. We have a reasonable amount of control over them since they ARE local, and

we know how to get to the people involved with them, should backlogs or breakdowns occur. We'll know right away if we're stressing the local systems too badly so that we can utilize planned-for alternate routings.

73

```
-----
Luck Hurder, KY1T      ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
AX.25 - KY1T@N4GAA.CT  TCP/IP - 44.88.2.59 (KY1T-2)
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA
-----
```

62. Special Olympics planning

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Wed, 8 Feb 1995 09:52:56 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: jim.ritterbusch@f1015.n141.z1.fidonet.org
Message-ID: <950208095235_16096914@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

When I saw this from Hank this morning, I said to myself "uh-oh!"

Partly (mostly) cuz Hank's right to ask these questions. Like:

>>So if I understand this correctly, ham radio will be used to link from
>>the site to the telephone company. Why not just use telco links right
>>from the site? Doing so would avoid the delay of keying things into a
>>computer, waiting for the messages to be forwarded, etc.

and

>>Unless I missed something, you expect that the US PBBSSs will somehow
>>get the traffic from the internet and then ... do something with it.

and other well-thought-out questions.

But the final one Hank posed is probably the most important, and the one that we've been grappling with (and using as the guiding force for) since the very outset of the '95 international Special Olympics planning efforts. And that question was basically, "Who benefits?" from the effort.

Unfortunately, it's been my observation during the last 25 years of Amateur Radio public service operations that we most often seem prone to putting our efforts into trying to serve ourselves as amateurs more often than trying to serve the public. Pity. This particular effort, however, since it involves SO many amateurs and very likely a million or so members of the general public, offers us a unique opportunity to serve BOTH groups of people (ourselves and the public) as well as a fairly large subset of the latter who happen to have physical and/or emotional challenges.

The part *I'm* interested in is the NTS traffic-generation aspect. There's plenty of room for the "special events" type stuff to occur (and it will) but I'm in it for the service-to-the-public part of it, as are a fair number of others. So it's my goal to do what it takes to accomplish that. Which is what makes Hank's questions so interesting to me. How can we maximize the excellent potential effects, while minimizing the "black eyes" that occur when traffic takes a couple weeks (if ever) to get delivered via the networks we now have established, through no particular fault of any individual person or system?

Luckily for all, we're not saddled with the decades-old "ham networks are good; anything else isn't ham radio and shouldn't be considered" mindsets. Yes, we'll use the Internet, and yes, we'll use Telco lines. But pessimism needs to be an integral part of our planning here, mostly because we're not in full control of the resources we eventually end up with. In my opinion, we need to ASSUME (yah, I know...) that adequate Telco lines will NOT magically arrive in time. We need to assume that, while Internet connections being immediately available at the multiple NTS-generation sites around the State during the S.O. is a wonderful thing to hope for, we dare NOT assume that they'll occur.

Thus, we need amateur radio. We need links (as many as we can muster) to get from the sites to the high volume traffic handlers. "Directly" via the Internet, NOT via PBBSS forwarding. Again, Hank's correct to question what sort of impact this effort will have on the existing systems. Which is precisely why we're using human resources, rather than AX.25 PBBSSs to maximize our capabilities. One SUPERB example of this came to light a while back, when KC1QF, in Belgium, offered to set up a system of volunteers around Europe -- and further -- who would accept messages for delivery. He's more

interested in the handling of "voicegrams" than NTS messages, which is fine by me. I'm about half way done now with the software that allows both to occur. Again, the old mindset of "old is good, new stuff we can't consider" is not occurring here.

Thanks, Hank, for bringing up the questions. We've got a large cadre of people who are discussing these things right now and I'll see to it that they have the benefit of your commentary and questions. Much appreciated!

73

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
AX.25 - KY1T@N4GAA.CT TCP/IP - 44.88.2.59 (KY1T-2)
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA

63. Re: [BBSSIG:543] Re: Routes overs...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 95 10:18:57 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502091018.ZM7439@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 9, 2:39am, KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:543] Re: Routes overs...

> WS10 sez:

>

> >>Olympics World Summer Games (June 28-Jul 9 in New Haven, Connecticut). All
> >>amateurs may participate, even hams outside the Games site who can greatly
> >>assist with what may be a huge volume of NTS radiogram traffic (via many
> >>modes, but mostly packet radio networks), and to make HF/VHF contacts with
> >>official special-event station W1SO.

>

>

> Actually, this thought of using "mostly packet radio networks" needs some
> further explanation so that people (particular on THIS sig!) will understand
> what the traffic handlers are proposing. In fact, we're going out of our
> way with this event (as we have with many many other high-volume events) to
> ensure that the AX.25 PBB systems are NOT clogged with our traffic.

To clog the network, you would need to generate at least 3,000 or more messages per day - at least that's my experience here in the PNW network. Are you talking this level of traffic, or much higher?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

64. RE: [BBSSIG:545] Re: Routes overs...

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 95 18:55:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F3AABBF@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> > > Olympics World Summer Games (June 28-Jul 9 in New Haven,
> > > Connecticut). All amateurs may participate, even hams
> > > outside the Games site who can greatly assist with what
> > > may be a huge volume of NTS radiogram traffic (via many
> > > modes, but mostly packet radio networks), and to make
> > > HF/VHF contacts with official special-event station W1SO.

> > Actually, this thought of using "mostly packet radio
> > networks" needs further explanation so that people
> > (particular on THIS
> > sig!) will understand what the traffic handlers are
> > proposing. In fact, we're going out of our way with this
> > event (as we have
> > with many many other high-volume events) to ensure that the
> > AX.25 PBB systems are NOT clogged with our traffic.

> To clog the network, you would need to generate at least 3000
> or more messages per day--at least that's my experience here
> in the PNW network. Are you talking this level of traffic, or
> much higher?

Well, Hank, I'm not as personally experienced as Luck is at originating huge quantities of NTS radiogram messages, but here's a guesstimate from me (Luck, if I'm way off, correct me!):

If we have 3 or 4 terminals set up and manned (or operating with Luck's "Traffic ATM" Windows software) at least 10 hours a day, and assuming almost continuous use (lots of bodies walking past and stopping to send free radiograms), I'm guessing each PC could generate about 30 or 40 messages an hour, peak. (Boilerplate "book" traffic can move fairly fast if all the people do is fill in the addressee's name address and telephone number and a signature.) That's maybe 300-400 message per machine per day. With 4 machines, that's looking like 1200-1600 per day...PEAK. In real life, perhaps we'll see something more like 500 to 1000 a day, depending on attendance, "salesmanship" by the operators in the message centers, etc.

I don't imagine it'll choke the system, but I can't imagine that it won't at least definitely place a noticeable load on it. And there may be "weak spots" where they get a lot of inbound radiograms but have few or slow PBBs and few traffic handlers to remove each day's messages for delivery. (And what about any other traffic-generating activities that may be going on around the country the week of July 4?)

That's all I'll say because I'm not the NTS guru. If anyone else here has considerable experience, I'd love to hear any helpful thoughts or suggestions. And personally, I generally accept most of Luck's judgment in these matters myself because I know first hand that he's a VERY experienced NTS traffic handler, thoroughly familiar with all levels of the NTS organization, and has spent a few billion hours originating traffic at large events and sending it like crazy by voice, packet, RTTY, AMTOR and a CW paddle. (I watched him meet a TCC sked at his house one day and I was reeling as he passed a few pieces of traffic by rattling that key at 40-45+ wpm...while gabbing with me! It was all over and he signed off before I even knew he had started the first radiogram...argh!)

--73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10, New Britain, CT USA
Amateur Radio Liaison, 1995 Special Olympics World Games
203-666-1541 (work), 203-827-9956 (home), 203-665-7531 (fax)
E-mail: bbattles@arrl.org (office), battles@ibm.net (home)
Packet: WS10@W1EDH.CT.USA.NOAM (AX.25)
ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org (TCP/IP)

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

65. RE: [BBSSIG:541] Re: Hyphens in "TO" fields

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 95 19:15:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F3AB00E@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> ... but, you can lead a horse to water and still can't get
> him drunk. Some users don't want to learn. They don't want
> to listen to suggestions about how to do things. They come
> into it with preconceived ideas of how it works and how
> they're going to use it. Those users will do their own thing.
> When you try to change them, they scream.

Aren't these people in two categories: Newcomers who just don't know better yet, and old-timers who are just plain jerks? Everyone is entitled to make boo-boos when they're first learning something new. Doing it "wrong" on purpose, repeatedly, however, means you're no longer welcome on a system. Works the same way everywhere, not just ham radio.

> ...Too much freedom is inefficient. Force conformance in
> the addressing for a better network.

Sounds like you may be politely confusing "freedom" with "sloppiness." If someone can't get the right town, state and ZIP on an envelope, the USPS doesn't care whether he or she is a nice person or not, it just isn't equipped to deliver that. If there's a return address, it comes back. Boing!

Here's a thought, which may sound harsh or rude, but it's only a personal thought, so don't panic: What if all PBBS SysOps had the attitude to be politely helpful, but firm in a friendly way when users don't do things the right way. For example, I can't log into a Fidonet BBS using a "nasty" pseudonym like: [insert cuss words here]. It just isn't allowed. Not on this BBS, not on that one, not on the one across town. (Yes, there are probably one or two exceptions.) If I'm reasonable and comply with the SysOp's few basic rules of "neighborliness" I can have a ball. Shouldn't packet SysOps be the same way--everywhere? Wouldn't you expect there to have evolved by now more standard operating procedures that all users and SysOps would expect and stick to? It looks to me like maybe half (or less) of the so-called "bulletins" florting around on any given local VHF PBBS at any time are posted properly by people who have a fair idea of what they're doing. Does anybody pay attention to the others? (Specifically, do the SysOps where the worst-addressed messages originate pay attention?)

Maybe the correct attitude is that every single hams *doesn't* have automatic post-anything-to-anywhere access on most PBBSs. Maybe everyone can ultimately jump into the driver's seat, but only after they take two seconds to bother to learn that there are "rules of the road" and then to bother to learn how to drive...?

--73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10, New Britain, CT USA
Amateur Radio Liaison, 1995 Special Olympics World Games
203-666-1541 (work), 203-827-9956 (home), 203-665-7531 (fax)
E-mail: bbattles@arrl.org (office), battles@ibm.net (home)

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

66. NTS traffic event

From: imotion@iu.net (Howard Goldstein)
Date: Thu, 09 Feb 1995 23:21:34 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502100427.XAA25168@bb.iu.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Luck Harder writes:

>
>The part *I'm* interested in is the NTS traffic-generation aspect. There's
>plenty of room for the "special events" type stuff to occur (and it will) but
>I'm in it for the service-to-the-public part of it, as are a fair number of
>others. So it's my goal to do what it takes to accomplish that. Which is
>what makes Hank's questions so interesting to me. How can we maximize the
>excellent potential effects, while minimizing the "black eyes" that occur
>when traffic takes a couple weeks (if ever) to get delivered via the networks
>we now have established, through no particular fault of any individual person
>or system?

As with Luck, my interest is also from the NTS side of things, at the section net level to be precise.

If the plan is to dump the messages into the region (and higher) nets, please alert those of us down the line at the section level at least two weeks ahead of time so that we may arrange to send more than one harried rep up to the region net. Admonitions to restrict messages to checks you can count on one hand, and tiny signatures, are of course unnecessary.

>
>Luckily for all, we're not saddled with the decades-old "ham networks are
>good; anything else isn't ham radio and shouldn't be considered" mindsets.
>Yes, we'll use the Internet, and yes, we'll use Telco lines. But pessimism
>needs to be an integral part of our planning here, mostly because we're not
>in full control of the resources we eventually end up with. In my opinion,
>we need to ASSUME (yah, I know...) that adequate Telco lines will NOT
>magically arrive in time. We need to assume that, while Internet connections
>being immediately available at the multiple NTS-generation sites around the
>State during the S.O. is a wunnerful thing to hope for, we dare NOT assume
>that they'll occur.
>
>Thus, we need amateur radio. We need links (as many as we can muster) to get
>from the sites to the high volume traffic handlers. "Directly" via the
>Internet, NOT via PBBS forwarding.

I'm afraid I have to agree with Luck, it's all too easy for a bundle of 30 or 40 messages destined to the high volume guys to get dropped on the floor never to be seen again. I'm still waiting for a 5K message to make it to my home BBS on the east coast of Fla from the W coast of Fla. Three weeks have gone by thus far and it's not here yet. I know it's in the system since I saw it on a system about 40 miles to my north 2 weeks ago...

Distribute the load down to the section level if possible, at the region level at worst, ship it via the internet, and let's move some traffic.

Howie

Howard Goldstein N2WX
InfoMotion Inc.

imotion@iu.net
<http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx>

67. Re: [BBSSIG:548] NTS traffic event

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 23:53:42 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950209232428.21112A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 9 Feb 1995, Howard Goldstein wrote:

> Luck Harder writes:
>
> >
> >The part *I'm* interested in is the NTS traffic-generation aspect. There's
> >plenty of room for the "special events" type stuff to occur (and it will) but
> >I'm in it for the service-to-the-public part of it, as are a fair number of
> >others. So it's my goal to do what it takes to accomplish that. Which is

From personal experience as a pbbs sysop for several years, I didn't get my forward file correct from the NTS standpoint until this year. It took several hours with the Post Office Zipcode Book to make the thing work properly.

If you don't have this book, you will NEVER set up your pbbs properly. But mine might be a special case since I forward to all of NM and have routes out of here in 4 different directions. The book can be had from the post office for money.

So when I hear someone say let's have a special NTS event I groan inward and wonder how many messages from SYSTEM I will get out of this...the FBB software is very good about warning you of a problem, but never fixes any of them...:-)

I don't understand why any mail would stall for a week instate in Florida. Here the message might be delayed by a node failure for several days but not a week. Of course if the mail is for Clayton, NM it will not be delivered by packet radio. There is no packet there. It must go via the 80 meter voice net.

The internet is a normal part of the forward cycle at my pbbs. It becomes very important when nodes fail. I can get to most places now with a zipped file of messages. It's so fast and slick it almost seems illegal!

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

68. [NETSIG:916] bpq408a.zip (fwd)

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 95 5:34:06 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502101134.AA168086@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forgive me for cross-posting, but did not want anyone on BBSSIG to miss this.

BTW, in a spare moment I have loaded this software onto a computer I am configuring to replace the current 'user' bbs computer, and a quick check looks like it works. Don't know about multiple DOS session access to the switch yet. Sure looks like the switch is 'talking' to real oddball address and IRQ combinations (that I set up on purpose) that OS/2 's com drivers will NOT talk to.

73 de Dave W05H

Forwarded message:

> From: netsig@tapr.org Thu Feb 9 23:23:03 1995
> Date: Thu, 9 Feb 1995 23:23:31 -0600
> Message-Id: <v01510100ab607873c276@[44.122.0.4]>
> Reply-To: netsig@tapr.org
> Originator: netsig@tapr.org
> Sender: netsig@tapr.org
> Precedence: bulk
> From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
> To: netsig@tapr.org
> Subject: [NETSIG:916] bpq408a.zip
> X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
> X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Networking SIG
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
>
> For anyone running OS/2 with BPQ, I have posted
>
> bpq408a.zip
>
> at ftp://ftp.southwind.net/users/k/k0hyd
>
> Enjoy!
>
> Dale
>
> 73 de Dale
> INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
> AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam
> Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
> Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)
>
>
>

69. RE: [BBSSIG:550] [NETSIG:916] bpq408a.zip (fwd)

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 95 07:15:00 PST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F3B8F50@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>From: bbssig
>To: bbssig
>Subject: [BBSSIG:550] [NETSIG:916] bpq408a.zip (fwd)
>Date: Friday, February 10, 1995 5:42AM
>
>Forgive me for cross-posting, but did not want anyone on BBSSIG to miss
>this.
>
>BTW, in a spare moment I have loaded this software onto a computer I am
>configuring to replace the current 'user' bbs computer, and a quick
>check looks like it works. Don't know about multiple DOS session access
>to the switch yet. Sure looks like the switch is 'talking' to real
>oddball address and IRQ combinations (that I set up on purpose) that
>OS/2
>'s com drivers will NOT talk to.
>
>73 de Dave W05H

Easy enough to fix! At the end of the line in your config.sys file where the COM.SYS driver is loaded add an entry for each additional port you have in the form:

(a, b, c)

where a is the port number
b is the i/o address

c is the interrupt number

Better yet get the SIO drivers...

73

Mike N4CNW

70. Re: [BBSSIG:548] NTS traffic ...

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 10:14:51 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: HO_betsey@apollo.comnet.edu, buck@ccsua.ctstateu.edu,
71673.1124@compuserve.com, kemp@k12.wcsu.ctstateu.edu,
jim.ritterbusch@f1015.n141.z1.fidonet.org
Message-ID: <950210101449_17977675@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Howie/N2WX sez:

As with Luck, my interest is also from the NTS side of things, at the section net level to be precise.

If the plan is to dump the messages into the region (and higher) nets, please alert those of us down the line at the section level at least two weeks ahead of time so that we may arrange to send more than one harried rep up to the region net.

To which Luck/KY1T retorts:

You gottit. Actually, we're doing things on a pseudo-TCC level, Howie, in that since we're not using the AX.25 PBB systems (unless absolutely necessary as a last resort due to absolute overload of everything else,) and since we're relying entirely on real live warm bodies who will be proactively responsible, the lower level (local/Section) nets will avoid the surprise factor nicely. Guys like your (Florida's) own N4SS are a HUGE help in these hi-volume events; we rely on them countless times and now that we have TCP/IP networks and the Internet to get so much stuff to these individuals, far away from the "disaster site", things go well. From there, NTS kicks in nicely and without difficulty.

Howi continues:

Admonitions to restrict messages to checks you can count on one hand, and tiny signatures, are of course unnecessary.

Luck babbles on:

This is a sore spot with me, always was even before I was supposedly "in charge" of NTS training and administration at ARRL HQ, and remains a sore spot even after being fired from there last year.

I recall, in particular, doing a seminar on traffic handling procedures a few years ago in North Carolina and this nasty topic reared it's ugly head once again. I was remarking about how wonderfully flexible NTS operators are with regard to the type of traffic they handle for the public, and for served agencies, when a fellow in the front row of the audience piped up with a "yah, but down here, if messages are 'too long' we simply kill them" comment. My retort was that THAT attitude can result in one person single-handedly cancelling every iota of public service communications value that the rest of the amateurs have managed to accomplish since the early part of the century!

I then launched into a suggestion to the audience that we're here to serve the public, regardless of how much it may inconvenience us as individuals. And, we'd better darned well be prepared when, during ANY situation, emergency or otherwise, a served agency dumps something with several hundred words on us (and for you non-NTS'ers,

that's
akin to one of your BBS users dumping a 3 megabyte file onto your forwarding
system).

So, Howie, I'm with you. And that's why I was delighted to see someone
suggest that
we handle not only normal NTS messages but also some heftier-sized digitized
voice
messages that the '95 worldwide Special Olympics participants could send (in
their
own languages) back to their friends and loved ones overseas. The software
I'm putting
together right now allows for both the normal NTS messages and the
experimental
digitized voice as well. It'll be fun to see if we can move this wide
variety of stuff around,
given the wonderful resources we now have.

N2WX continues:

I'm afraid I have to agree with Luck, it's all too easy for a bundle of 30
or 40 messages destined to the high volume guys to get dropped on the floor
never to be seen again. I'm still waiting for a 5K message to make it to my
home BBS on the east coast of Fla from the W coast of Fla. Three weeks have
gone by thus far and it's not here yet. I know it's in the system since I
saw it on a system about 40 miles to my north 2 weeks ago...

To which KY1T retorts:

Precisely. And we're all aware of the horror stories, often admittedly
brought on
by our own lack of understanding of what we as amateurs can be expected to
handle. Stressing already-stressed systems dooms us to the black-eye
syndrome, big-time. Utilizing resources designed to handle loads larger than
we can presently even comprehend makes good sense.

Howie finally finalizes his final:

ship it via the internet, and let's move some traffic.

To which Luck signs off with:

Consider it done!

73

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
AX.25 - KY1T@N4GAA.CT TCP/IP - 44.88.2.59 (KY1T-2)
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA but **NOT** ARRL

71. Re: routes and areas

From: Bob Proulx <rbp@hprwp.fc.hp.com>
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 10:59:36 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502101759.AA08619@hprwp.fc.hp.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Bill writes:

> Why don't we take the regional routing one step further? Have a
> BBS named, or at least aliased, to the city or region? Call signs

Those familiar with internet routing will wonder why this won't work
with packet radio. It works wonderfully with internet domain names.
Just route the message to the most global domain that is not your
domain and let them handle it. (I am ignoring MX records and direct
connections.) The message is affectively handled right to left across
the domain name. It moves to the area specified by the right-most
part of the domain name. If you are in the same right-most part you
ignore that part and move on to more exact locations to the left and
keep forwarding until it arrives.

This means that bigsky.dillon.mt.us and bigsky.boulder.co.us are both
fine unique machine address names. We call them fully qualified
domain names or FQDNs. Mail for either is sent to the right-most part
before the bigsky part is even looked at. So it does not matter that
both machines are called bigsky.

However, ham packet radio is different. The current packet forwarding is based upon unique names and routing hints. This is completely different in a very subtle way. The way most BBS programs look at names is left to right and NOT right to left like internet names. Ham BBS programs look first at the @CALLSIGN portion. If that matches something in the forwarding files then the .#REGION.HLOC part is never even consulted. It is forwarded as specified in the forwarding file. Only if the @CALLSIGN portion is unknown does dot separated "routing hints" from the HLOC get consulted as to where to forward.

The suggestion was:

> E.g. sp ko4ks@tpa.fl.usa.noam

This means that you cannot have tpa.fl.usa.noam and tpa.co.usa.noam both in the same world. All components of a hierarchical address must be unique in the present system. For example, someone would post in their forward file that FortCollins addresses go to me, expecting mail to FortCollins.co.usa.noam to come here. Now when any FortCollins is encountered it would be forwarded here even if the address was FortCollins.fl.usa.noam. This is clearly not what we want. This is why all components of an address must be unique in the world.

This leads to a conclusion. All ham packet software today expects unique @callsigns with routing hints and process addresses left to right. Only a callsign is guaranteed to be unique in the world. Therefore all ham packet addresses must be @CALLSIGN. QED. In order to change the addressing scheme you must change how mail addresses are processed by the software.

Brian wrote:

> Now me, I get a new bbs in #MIAMI, and there is no delay, no messages
> sent, no time wasted on my part. It goes to Miami. Let THEM handle it.

Was that Miami, Kansas, or Miami, Nevada? Oh... you mean Miami, Florida? How do we guarantee unique city names across the complete address domain of packet radio, which is the world? I grew up in Ottawa, Kansas. I have been to Ottawa, Illinois. Just because most people probably think of Ottawa, Canada, does not mean it is a unique name.

How could we implement a system of regional names? We could easily change the way forwarding is done. Nothing magical about it. USENET machine!user addresses changed into Internet user@machine addresses. This was a similar change and it was done on a large scale and things are better because of it.

How would we on the ham packet system do this? By changing the software in use as BBSs across the world to route messages right to left instead of left to right. Simple. I believe this is a necessary step before ham packet radio can become a robust mail network.

Bob Proulx
rwp@fc.hp.com
KF0UW@KF0UW.#NECO.CO.USA
Fort Collins, Colorado, USA

72. Re: [BBSSIG:553] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 95 10:22:42 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502101022.ZM18844@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 10, 12:10pm, Bob Proulx wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:553] Re: routes and areas
>
> Bill writes:
> > Why don't we take the regional routing one step further? Have a
> > BBS named, or at least aliased, to the city or region? Call signs

<...>

> This means that you cannot have tpa.fl.usa.noam and tpa.co.usa.noam
> both in the same world. All components of a hierarchical address must
> be unique in the present system. For example, someone would post in
> their forward file that FortCollins addresses go to me, expecting mail
> to FortCollins.co.usa.noam to come here. Now when any FortCollins is
> encountered it would be forwarded here even if the address was
> FortCollins.fl.usa.noam. This is clearly not what we want. This is

> why all components of an address must be unique in the world.

Seems like a bad way to do things.

Also note there is a six char limit on hierarchical location components ...

> This leads to a conclusion. All ham packet software today expects
> unique @callsigns with routing hints and process addresses left to
> right. Only a callsign is guaranteed to be unique in the world.
> Therefore all ham packet addresses must be @CALLSIGN. QED. In order
> to change the addressing scheme you must change how mail addresses are
> processed by the software.

Disagree. All must be To: CALL, since that is how we identify individuals but the rest of the address could well be anything.

>

> Brian wrote:

> > Now me, I get a new bbs in #MIAMI, and there is no delay, no messages
> > sent, no time wasted on my part. It goes to Miami. Let THEM handle it.
>

> Was that Miami, Kansas, or Miami, Nevada? Oh... you mean Miami,
> Florida? How do we guarantee unique city names across the complete
> address domain of packet radio, which is the world? I grew up in
> Ottawa, Kansas. I have been to Ottawa, Illinois. Just because most
> people probably think of Ottawa, Canada, does not mean it is a unique
> name.

Yup, like Dallas and St. Paul (these are in Oregon, of course, and Dallas has a BBS).

>

> How could we implement a system of regional names? We could easily
> change the way forwarding is done. Nothing magical about it. USENET
> machine!user addresses changed into Internet user@machine addresses.
> This was a similar change and it was done on a large scale and things
> are better because of it.

What problem are we trying to solve here?

Please help us poor BBS authors understand what the problem is, and why it is a problem, and what solutions might make sense. I seem to have missed the problem statement.

> How would we on the ham packet system do this? By changing the
> software in use as BBSs across the world to route messages right to
> left instead of left to right. Simple. I believe this is a necessary
> step before ham packet radio can become a robust mail network.

Which BBS software routes left to right?

I've been hearing about this for years, but am not clear which BBS codes actually DO it this way.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

73. Re: [BBSSIG:553] Re: routes and areas

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Fri, 10 Feb 1995 17:00:47 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502101636.A22334-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 10 Feb 1995, Bob Proulx wrote:

> However, ham packet radio is different. The current packet forwarding
> is based upon unique names and routing hints. This is completely
> different in a very subtle way. The way most BBS programs look at
> names is left to right and NOT right to left like internet names. Ham
> BBS programs look first at the @CALLSIGN portion. If that matches
> something in the forwarding files then the .#REGION.HLOC part is never
> even consulted. It is forwarded as specified in the forwarding file.

> Only if the @CALLSIGN portion is unknown does dot separated "routing
> hints" from the HLOC get consulted as to where to forward.

I have a novel idea...why not fix this, instead of trying to mess with
other things make it more complex for the users?

> How would we on the ham packet system do this? By changing the
> software in use as BBSs across the world to route messages right to
> left instead of left to right. Simple. I believe this is a necessary
> step before ham packet radio can become a robust mail network.

And, this would solve the case where a user has a seasonal or other
temporary address change. If you want to send the message to his summer
home, you send it with that h-address. In winter, switch addresses.
When it gets to the right area, it looks at the call and routes it to the
bbs shown.

Set a date. All software switch to the new corrected parsing. Let's
have a system that works...and get on with life.

Gary

74. Re: [BBSSIG:545] Re: Routes o...

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Sat, 11 Feb 1995 08:56:33 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: buck@ccsua.ctstateu.edu, 71673.1124@compuserve.com, pve@dg13.cec.be,
kemp@k12.wcsu.ctstateu.edu, jim.ritterbusch@f1015.n141.z1.fidonet.org
Message-ID: <950211085624_18868470@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
WØRLI sez:

>To clog the network, you would need to generate at least 3,000 or
more messages per day - at least that's my experience here in the PNW
network. Are you talking this level of traffic, or much higher?

> ... Hank

To which KY1T replies:

Thanks to the hard work of folks like yourself, Hank, the Pacific NorthWest
CAN handle a hefty load of NTS traffic like that each day.

And, of course, you used to be here in New England, so you have a pretty
decent idea of how things were here , at least back then. And yes, they've
improved fairly dramatically in recent years.

But out here, they're still not even CLOSE to being able to handle 3000 NTS
messages a day. Not to put TOO fine a point on it, but in the last three
high-volume traffic events I've been involved with here in New England, a
hundred a day would VERY often overload things so badly that nothing
would move for several days at a time. That is to say, we'd check numerous
boards several days later and the traffic would still be there, unforwarded,
untended, uncared for.

Now there's no blame to be placed; I'm not suggesting that, but rather, that
it's just an unfortunate fact of life when we stress things. But to be fair,
once we realized what the realities were, then we clearly understood that
advanced planning was of course necessary so as to include every
possible alternative forwarding plan that we could lay our mitts on.
Particularly when planning for something the size of the 95 worldwide
Special Olympics and the 96 Atlanta World Games.

So that's where we are now, planning for worst-case scenarios, and
assuming that Murphy will prevail. We're all very very fortunate that we
HAVE so many wonderful alternatives to rely on.

But to (finally!) answer your question, no we'll not be generating three
thousand messages a day, I don't think. Although we need to be aware
that we're adding a new wrinkle in our service-to-the-public scheme this
time -- that of not only providing NTS message service (to the tune of about
1KB each), but also digitized voice messages that will be somewhat
larger. It's my belief that Amateur Radio will only be involved in the
transfer of that latter category of messages, in that we'll be using amateur
TCP/IP links to get a small number of those from point A in CT to point
B, also in CT. And then, only as a backup, since we're hoping
that we'll have much higher speed outlets available for those.

We shall see..

73

```
-----
Luck Hurder, KY1T      ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
AX.25 - KY1T@N4GAA.CT  TCP/IP - 44.88.2.59 (KY1T-2)
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA
-----
```

75. RE: [BBSSIG:553] Re: routes and areas

From: Jim Fortney <fortney@lcsipdp.litton.com>
Date: Sun, 12 Feb 95 00:20:23 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Chameleon.4.01.3B.950212003630.fortney@fortneyh.litton.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Not to take anything away from Bob's primary point (parsing approach), may I use his excellent discussion to once again explain why the current WESTNET Standard for Regional and Area Designators includes the State Designator within the field. That is: #SOCA.CA.USA.NOAM for Southern California. The fact that stations in 32 states use this approach must say something for its validity.

When asked why a unique low level address element wasn't adequate for unique routing, he responded:
>Those familiar with internet routing will wonder why this won't work
>with packet radio. It works wonderfully with internet domain names.
>Just route the message to the most global domain that is not your
>domain and let them handle it. (I am ignoring MX records and direct
>connections.) The message is [e]ffectively handled right to left across
>the domain name. It moves to the area specified by the right-most
>part of the domain name. If you are in the same right-most part you
>ignore that part and move on to more exact locations to the left and
>keep forwarding until it arrives.
>
>This means that bigsky.dillon.mt.us and bigsky.boulder.co.us are both
>fine unique machine address names. We call them fully qualified
>domain names or FQDNs. Mail for either is sent to the right-most part
>before the bigsky part is even looked at. So it does not matter that
>both machines are called bigsky.
>
>However, ham packet radio is different. The current packet forwarding
>is based upon unique names and routing hints. This is completely
>different in a very subtle way. The way most BBS programs look at
>names is left to right and NOT right to left like internet names. Ham
>BBS programs look first at the @CALLSIGN portion. If that matches
>something in the forwarding files then the .#REGION.HLOC part is never
>even consulted. It is forwarded as specified in the forwarding file.
>Only if the @CALLSIGN portion is unknown does dot separated "routing
>hints" from the HLOC get consulted as to where to forward.
>
>The suggestion was:
>> E.g. sp ko4ks@tpa.fl.usa.noam
>
>This means that you cannot have tpa.fl.usa.noam and tpa.co.usa.noam
>both in the same world. All components of a hierarchical address must
>be unique in the present system. For example, someone would post in
>their forward file that FortCollins addresses go to me, expecting mail
>to FortCollins.co.usa.noam to come here. Now when any FortCollins is
>encountered it would be forwarded here even if the address was
>FortCollins.fl.usa.noam. This is clearly not what we want. This is
>why all components of an address must be unique in the world.
>
>This leads to a conclusion. All ham packet software today expects
>unique @callsigns with routing hints and process addresses left to
>right. Only a callsign is guaranteed to be unique in the world.
>Therefore all ham packet addresses must be @CALLSIGN. QED. In order
>to change the addressing scheme you must change how mail addresses are
>processed by the software.
>
>Brian wrote:
>> Now me, I get a new bbs in #MIAMI, and there is no delay, no messages
>> sent, no time wasted on my part. It goes to Miami. Let THEM handle it.
>
>Was that Miami, Kansas, or Miami, Nevada? Oh... you mean Miami,
>Florida? How do we guarantee unique city names across the complete

>address domain of packet radio, which is the world? I grew up in
>Ottawa, Kansas. I have been to Ottawa, Illinois. Just because most
>people probably think of Ottawa, Canada, does not mean it is a unique
>name.
>
>How could we implement a system of regional names? We could easily
>change the way forwarding is done. Nothing magical about it. USENET
>machine!user addresses changed into Internet user@machine addresses.
>This was a similar change and it was done on a large scale and things
>are better because of it.
>
>How would we on the ham packet system do this? By changing the
>software in use as BBSs across the world to route messages right to
>left instead of left to right. Simple. I believe this is a necessary
>step before ham packet radio can become a robust mail network.
>
>Bob Proulx
>rw@fc.hp.com
>KF0UW@KF0UW.#NECO.CO.USA
>Fort Collins, Colorado, USA
>

Thanks Bob

Jim Fortney, K6IYK@K6IYK.#SOCA.CA.USA.NOAM
fortney@litton.com

76. Re: [BBSSIG:553] Re: routes and areas

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Sun, 12 Feb 1995 06:16:51 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950212054912.1505A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 10 Feb 1995, Bob Proulx wrote:

>
> Bill writes:
> > Why don't we take the regional routing one step further? Have a
> > BBS named, or at least aliased, to the city or region? Call signs
>
> Those familiar with internet routing will wonder why this won't work
> with packet radio. It works wonderfully with internet domain names.
> Just route the message to the most global domain that is not your
> domain and let them handle it. (I am ignoring MX records and direct
> connections.) The message is affectively handled right to left across
> the domain name. It moves to the area specified by the right-most
> part of the domain name. If you are in the same right-most part you
> ignore that part and move on to more exact locations to the left and
> keep forwarding until it arrives.
>
> This means that bigsky.dillon.mt.us and bigsky.boulder.co.us are both
> fine unique machine address names. We call them fully qualified
> domain names or FQDNs. Mail for either is sent to the right-most part
> before the bigsky part is even looked at. So it does not matter that
> both machines are called bigsky.

And this is true only if the POSITION of bigsky is at the left of
the address.

>
> However, ham packet radio is different. The current packet forwarding
> is based upon unique names and routing hints. This is completely
> different in a very subtle way. The way most BBS programs look at
> names is left to right and NOT right to left like internet names. Ham
> BBS programs look first at the @CALLSIGN portion. If that matches
> something in the forwarding files then the .#REGION.HLOC part is never
> even consulted. It is forwarded as specified in the forwarding file.
> Only if the @CALLSIGN portion is unknown does dot separated "routing
> hints" from the HLOC get consulted as to where to forward.
>

And is this bad? Not if WHEN @callsign is not found in the bbs
forwarding file that is routing the message. This part seems to work fine
Bob.

> The suggestion was:
 > > E.g. sp ko4ks@tpa.fl.usa.noam
 >
 > This means that you cannot have tpa.fl.usa.noam and tpa.co.usa.noam
 > both in the same world.

No they would work fine if the bbs software read the address from right to left AFTER it found the @callsign was not local. Read right to left the tpa might be unique to the world!

All components of a hierarchical address must
 > be unique in the present system. For example, someone would post in
 > their forward file that FortCollins addresses go to me, expecting mail
 > to FortCollins.co.usa.noam to come here. Now when any FortCollins is
 > encountered it would be forwarded here even if the address was
 > FortCollins.fl.usa.noam. This is clearly not what we want. This is
 > why all components of an address must be unique in the world.
 ^^^ ^^^^^^ ^^^^^^ ^^^^^^

This problem is due I gather to a problem I am not aware of. I would have sworn that the bbs software looked at the address from right to left. tpa.fl.usa.noam works great IF the software reads from right to left...

>
 > This leads to a conclusion. All ham packet software today expects
 > unique @callsigns with routing hints and process addresses left to
 > right. Only a callsign is guaranteed to be unique in the world.
 > Therefore all ham packet addresses must be @CALLSIGN. QED. In order
 > to change the addressing scheme you must change how mail addresses are
 > processed by the software.

Hank, it's your turn now. Have you author's been talking about any changes to how you read the address? It occurs to me that it should be even simpler than what's done now. Of course it isn't because there is no standard even for the FIRST PART of the packet address! But it should be possible to handle even that problem...

Now THAT is a sellable reason for using noam! We are not protecting Nambia from something that is hard to believe, we are standardizing on 4 letters in the continent part of the address so the author's of packet bbs can read the address right to left.

>
 > Brian wrote:
 > > Now me, I get a new bbs in #MIAMI, and there is no delay, no messages
 > > sent, no time wasted on my part. It goes to Miami. Let THEM handle it.
 >
 > Was that Miami, Kansas, or Miami, Nevada? Oh... you mean Miami,
 > Florida? How do we guarantee unique city names across the complete
 > address domain of packet radio, which is the world? I grew up in
 > Ottawa, Kansas. I have been to Ottawa, Illinois. Just because most
 > people probably think of Ottawa, Canada, does not mean it is a unique
 > name.
 >
 > How could we implement a system of regional names? We could easily
 > change the way forwarding is done. Nothing magical about it. USENET
 > machine!user addresses changed into Internet user@machine addresses.
 > This was a similar change and it was done on a large scale and things
 > are better because of it.
 >
 > How would we on the ham packet system do this? By changing the
 > software in use as BBSs across the world to route messages right to
 > left instead of left to right. Simple. I believe this is a necessary
 > step before ham packet radio can become a robust mail network.

Thank you Bob for a better way to do things in the packet bbs world.

>
 > Bob Proulx
 > rwp@fc.hp.com
 > KF0UW@KF0UW.#NECO.CO.USA
 > Fort Collins, Colorado, USA
 >

77. (no subject)

From: "Hovland,D Amn 27CS/SCSD" <HOVLANDD@cs27.cannon.af.mil>
Date: Mon, 13 Feb 95 08:48:00 mst
To: Packet Radio BBS SIG <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F3F1D7D@cs27.cannon.af.mil>
Rendered body type: text/plain

subscribe

78. Re: [BBSSIG:558] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 14 Feb 95 14:14:54 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502141414.ZM29691@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 12, 7:25am, Klarsen wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:558] Re: routes and areas

> Hank, it's your turn now. Have you author's been talking about
> any changes to how you read the address? It occurs to me that it should
> be even simpler than what's done now. Of course it isn't because there is
> no standard even for the FIRST PART of the packet address! But it should
> be possible to handle even that problem...

I lost track of what problem we are trying to solve.

Can someone post examples of the address from messages that were mis-routed so we can look at them and figure out what problem we are trying to solve.

I can't post any, since I've not seen any mis-routed messages in the past few months. Mis-addressed, yes, but that is a user education issue and cannot be solved any other way.

As far as I personally am concerned, NA or NOAM make no difference, because I don't route TO either of those places. EU and EURO make no difference as I route both to the same places (European gateway systems either satellite or HF). Those cute "#" elements make no difference, since I do not route using them. Grid squares are not of interest for the same reason. In fact, I set up my system to totally ignore "#" location elements and grid squares.

I find that *all* traffic routes just fine using the hints in what is left of the hierarchical location once the grid square, "#" element, my local continent (NA or NOAM either one), my local country (USA), and the two states I serve (OR and WA) have been thrown away.

What is left is continents I'm not in, countries I'm not in, states I do not serve, and callsigns of some bbs systems.

Yes, I could use some "#" elements to group bbs systems together, as in #SEA for Seattle or #SALEM (containing only n7ifj), but I don't.

Now just what problem was it that we were trying to solve?

I lost the thread ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

79. Expiring Messages

From: kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 95 13:04:37 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <23486@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi
 I have JNOS Vers. 1.08dff WA3DSP 80386 compile
 and use the Expire.dat file for expirng msgs
 BUT BBSSIG and NETSIG DOnt have Dates when i get them Via NNTP
 I have Expire for these set for 14 days
 for BOTH groups and Since there is no Date: expire Clears all of them
 New or Old Is this normal
 Souldnt NOS put its own system date in if none is there?

73 any comments appreciated
 Mike

```
*****
Amprnet: KB2HJC@NX2B.AMPR.ORG      AX.25: KB2HJC@WA2NDV.NY.USA.NOAM
Email: COMPUSERVE 75550,130      Internet: 75550.130@compuserve.com
Voice: 145.110 Rpt. PL 3B      Phone: 609-886-8792
TCP/IP-Netrom: [44.65.32.24] IPHJC:KB2HJC-8
*****
```

80. Re: [BBSSIG:560] Re: routes and areas

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
 Date: Wed, 15 Feb 1995 10:35:10 -0700 (MST)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950215102132.3317A-100000@kazak>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 14 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

```
> On Feb 12, 7:25am, Klarsen wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:558] Re: routes and areas
>
> > Hank, it's your turn now. Have you author's been talking about
> > any changes to how you read the address? It occurs to me that it should
> > be even simpler than what's done now. Of course it isn't because there is
> > no standard even for the FIRST PART of the packet address! But it should
> > be possible to handle even that problem...
>
> I lost track of what problem we are trying to solve.
>
> Can someone post examples of the address from messages that were
> mis-routed so we can look at them and figure out what problem we
> are trying to solve.
```

Lots removed...

```
>
> I lost the thread ...
>
> ... Hank
>
>
```

Well the thread is: can we use a "standard" address that will work all places in the world? I am going to baffle the audience at the tapr meeting with such a proposal. I was all hot-to-trot with the thing but when I made the VU Graf charts it is NOT A BIG DEAL...

That said the principle I want to push is a standard pbbs address that has the form @callsign.local.state.country.continent and all valid addresses have something in each topic. This makes you and me add .local to our address, but it is for a good cause.

With this standard address I think getting mail going the right direction will take less control file work. My question to Author Hank Oredson is, what do you think will be necessary in software changes to use the Standard Address?

Got the thread?...:-)

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
```

*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*

81. Re: [BBSSIG:562] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 95 11:03:21 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502151103.ZM3140@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 15, 12:28pm, Klarsen wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:562] Re: routes and areas

>
> With this standard address I think getting mail going the right
> direction will take less control file work. My question to Author Hank
> Oredson is, what do you think will be necessary in software changes to
> use the Standard Address?
>
> Got the thread?...:-)

No, not really.

The question I asked was "What is the problem ..."
I don't see what the problem is.
Can you explain the problem?

What "standard address" are you talking about?
The standard address we use now?
If that is what you are talking about, I think the answer is simple:
it works, so don't change it.

If it IS broken, then this thread should identify what is broken.

- o Examples of messages that are misrouted.
- o Analysis of why they were misrouted.
- o Traffic analysis to identify the severity of the problem.

If things are NOT broken then we should continue to use what we
are using now. If things ARE broken, then, and only then, are
new address proposals in order.

The parts that I missed were:

- o What's broken?
- o What's the new proposal?
- o Why is it better than what we use now?
- o How severe is the misrouting problem?
- o How will this new scheme solve the problem?

How about some examples to illustrate the discussion ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

82. BPQ Tutorial

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Wed, 15 Feb 95 22:21:57 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <9502160421.AA120370@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In my own struggle to grasp certain concepts in the (to me) complicated world of software and hardware, I come up really short in a good understanding of how the marvelous G8BPQ software works. I can make it work for the simple tasks I use it for now (getting multiple ports to 'talk' to one another and to AA4RE BBS application).

Anyone with a good tutorial for the BPQ software? Anyone understand it sufficiently enough to document your experience and create a decent guideline?

In case there isn't any such tutorial available or no one wants to step forward and create one, I'll collect the most interesting partial explanations and BPQ tips, hints and kinks that are brought forth. If we collect enough, maybe that will be the start to the kind of document I am looking for...

73 and let's hear from you!

Dave W05H
BBS SIG Chair

83. RE: [BBSSIG:564] BPQ Tutorial

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 6:38:42 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950216063843.d76c@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hurray... I second that motion, Dave!!!!

... Ed, K1BYV

84. Re: [BBSSIG:563] Re: routes and areas

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 07:42:02 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950216073040.21559B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 15 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Feb 15, 12:28pm, Klarsen wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:562] Re: routes and areas
>
> >
> > With this standard address I think getting mail going the right
> > direction will take less control file work. My question to Author Hank
> > Oredson is, what do you think will be necessary in software changes to
> > use the Standard Address?
> >
> > Got the thread?...:-)
>
> No, not really.
>
> The question I asked was "What is the problem ..."
> I don't see what the problem is.
> Can you explain the problem?
>
> What "standard address" are you talking about?
> The standard address we use now?
> If that is what you are talking about, I think the answer is simple:
> it works, so don't change it.
>
> If it IS broken, then this thread should identify what is broken.
>
> o Examples of messages that are misrouted.
>
> o Analysis of why they were misrouted.
>
> o Traffic analysis to identify the severity of the problem.
>
> If things are NOT broken then we should continue to use what we
> are using now. If things ARE broken, then, and only then, are
> new address proposals in order.
>
> The parts that I missed were:

```

>
> o What's broken?

    Nothing

>
> o What's the new proposal?
>
    Come to the TAPR meeting, or read the proceedings

> o Why is it better than what we use now?
>
    Users will better understand mail forwarding. With simple changes
the bbs can display a list of bbs in moscow, russia, idaho,
washington, wherever.

> o How severe is the misrouting problem?
>
    How many messages do you edit for your users each week? My guess
for me is 7-10 each week.

> o How will this new scheme solve the problem?
>
    It will make the packet address easier to read by machine AND human.

> How about some examples to illustrate the discussion ...
>
    Come to the tapr meeting...:-) But here is what my new standard
address will be: @k5di.las.cruces.nm.usa.noam and IF the machine doesn't
like las (space) cruces it can be written las_cruces. ANCI C I recall is
confused by a space in a string when comparing to a list...

>
> ... Hank
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
> --
>
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics      Library Operations
> Internet      : hank_oredson@mentorg.com  "Parts 'R Us!"
> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM
>
> -karl k5di

```

85. Re: [BBSSIG:564] BPQ Tutorial

```

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 07:58:48 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950216075142.21559D-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

On Wed, 15 Feb 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

```

> In my own struggle to grasp certain concepts in the (to me) complicated
> world of software and hardware, I come up really short in a good
> understanding of how the marvelous G8BPQ software works. I can make it
> work for the simple tasks I use it for now (getting multiple ports to
> 'talk' to one another and to AA4RE BBS application).

```

Could not agree more fully Dave. The BPQ Switch is wonderful in that it does EXACTLY what it says it does, if you could ever figure out for sure what it DOES:-)

```

>
> Anyone with a good tutorial for the BPQ software? Anyone understand it
> sufficiently enough to document your experience and create a decent
> guideline?

```

>
Yes I am pretty expert on using BPQ and have used it for about 5 years from version 3.x thru 4.8 now. I have used the IP Router and now connect to a DRSI card and a Tiny-2 with a kiss e-prom running 9600 baud. I can test the interconnect between computers and will do so. I run windows for work groups and will try to set that up and report what it does...I'm not at all sure.

>
> In case there isn't any such tutorial available or no one wants to step forward and create one, I'll collect the most interesting partial explanations and BPQ tips, hints and kinks that are brought forth. If we collect enough, maybe that will be the start to the kind of document I am looking for...

>
> 73 and let's hear from you!

>
> Dave W05H
> BBS SIG Chair

>
Dave I will take on the job of writing the BPQ tutorial. What is the time-frame?

-karl k5di

86. Re: [BBSSIG:564] BPQ Tutorial

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 09:39:48 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502161539.JAA16751@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> In case there isn't any such tutorial available or no one wants to step forward and create one, I'll collect the most interesting partial explanations and BPQ tips, hints and kinks that are brought forth. If we collect enough, maybe that will be the start to the kind of document I am looking for...

>
> 73 and let's hear from you!

>
> Dave W05H
> BBS SIG Chair

>
Dave

This is a perfect example of why TAPR should promote my idea of educational and operating bltns. Once you figure out how to use BPQ, we need to tell the world. Well below 1% of SYSOPs will ever read this SIG or find an ftp site where this info would be available. Its gotta be sent to the world and TAPR outta do it.

73 Barry

87. Re: [BBSSIG:566] Re: routes and areas

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 09:04:02 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502160857.A17243-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

>
> Come to the tapr meeting...:-) But here is what my new standard address will be: @k5di.las.cruces.nm.usa.noam and IF the machine doesn't like las (space) cruces it can be written las_cruces. ANCI C I recall is confused by a space in a string when comparing to a list...

> -karl k5di

Karl, why worry about the space? Why not just skip it. What's wrong with k5di.lascruces.nm.usa.noam? While on the subject, maybe this is a dumb question but I've never heard a reason for it, why do programmers seem to insist on using an underline, a shifted character, instead of a hyphen, a non-shifted character?? Most of us don't need the extra keystrokes, we have our quota already! :)

Gary

88. TAPR.ORG Downtime

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 11:25:44 -0600 (CST)
To: tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing), hfsig@tapr.org (HF SIG mailing),
netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing),
fccreg@tapr.org (fcc), tapr-board@tapr.org (TAPR Board),
pcs@tapr.org (TAPR PCS Project), dsp-93@tapr.org (DSP-93 Build),
dsp93dev@tapr.org (DSP93 Development), aprssig@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu,
tuc52@tapr.org (TUC-52), tnc95@tapr.org (TNC-95)
Message-ID: <199502161725.LAA03238@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

TAPR.ORG Downtime 2/16/95

The TAPR.ORG system will be moving locations on Monday morning, February 20th, 1995.

During this move, the system will be unavailable. A second message will be posted when the system is fully operational.

89. Re: [BBSSIG:566] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 95 10:34:17 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502161034.ZM10671@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 16, 8:49am, Klarsen wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:566] Re: routes and areas
>
>
> On Wed, 15 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:
>
> > On Feb 15, 12:28pm, Klarsen wrote:
> > > Subject: [BBSSIG:562] Re: routes and areas
> >
> > >
> > > With this standard address I think getting mail going the right
> > > direction will take less control file work. My question to Author Hank
> > > Oredson is, what do you think will be necessary in software changes to
> > > use the Standard Address?
> > >
> > > Got the thread?...:-)
> >
> > No, not really.
> >
> > The question I asked was "What is the problem ..."
> > I don't see what the problem is.
> > Can you explain the problem?
> >
> > What "standard address" are you talking about?
> > The standard address we use now?
> > If that is what you are talking about, I think the answer is simple:
> > it works, so don't change it.
> >
> > If it IS broken, then this thread should identify what is broken.
> >
> > o Examples of messages that are misrouted.
> >
> > o Analysis of why they were misrouted.
> >
> > o Traffic analysis to identify the severity of the problem.
> >
> > If things are NOT broken then we should continue to use what we
> > are using now. If things ARE broken, then, and only then, are
> > new address proposals in order.
> >
> > The parts that I missed were:
> >
> > o What's broken?
> >
> > Nothing

Then why would we consider "fixing it" ?

>
> >
> > o What's the new proposal?

> >
> Come to the TAPR meeting, or read the proceedings

Since you brought it up in this forum, it only makes sense to publish it here, so we all know what you are proposing. I am not going to the TAPR meeting, nor will I read the proceedings unless they appear here.

>
>
>
> > o Why is it better than what we use now?
> >
> Users will better understand mail forwarding. With simple changes
> the bbs can display a list of bbs in moscow, russia, idaho,
> washington,wherever.

They can do that now.

>
>
> > o How severe is the misrouting problem?
> >
> How many messages do you edit for your users each week? My guess
> for me is 7-10 each week.

>From how many thousand messages?
A "severity" measure needs to reference the traffic quantity and type to have any meaning.

>
> > o How will this new scheme solve the problem?
> >
> It will make the packet address easier to read by machine AND human.

Examples required.

>
>
> > How about some examples to illustrate the discussion ...
> >
> Come to the tapr meeting...:-) But here is what my new standard
> address will be: @k5di.las cruces.nm.usa.noam and IF the machine doesn't
> like las (space) cruces it can be written las_cruces. ANCI C I recall is
> confused by a space in a string when comparing to a list..

How is this new address different from what is standard now?
You are asking to expand the location elements to larger than six characters? You want embeded spaces?

ANSI C is not confused by spaces (or any other character), but you will need to consider the syntax specification when you suggest doing something new. You *do* have that spec I hope!

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

90. Re: [BBSSIG:569] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 95 10:39:53 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502161039.ZM10683@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 16, 10:28am, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:569] Re: routes and areas
>
>
> On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:
>
> > Come to the tapr meeting...:-) But here is what my new standard
> > address will be: @k5di.las cruces.nm.usa.noam and IF the machine doesn't

```
> > like las (space) cruces it can be written las_cruces. ANCI C I recall is
> > confused by a space in a string when comparing to a list...
> > -karl k5di
>
> Karl, why worry about the space? Why not just skip it. What's wrong
> with k5di.lascruces.nm.usa.noam? While on the subject, maybe this is a
> dumb question but I've never heard a reason for it, why do programmers
> seem to insist on using an underline, a shifted character, instead of a
> hyphen, a non-shifted character?? Most of us don't need the extra
> keystrokes, we have our quota already! :)
```

The reason some programmers prefer underline is because the dash (or minus) character is interpreted by some languages as an operator (subtraction). Any "reasonable" programmer would not do things that require the user to make this kind of distinction.

Another reason dash (or minus) is not used is that some programs assume a dash is part of a callsign-ssid string. Again, any reasonable programmer would not do things this way.

My opinion: don't care what characters are in those fields, as long as *some* standard syntax is followed. See the bbs specification for the details of what existing codes are required to do.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

91. Re: [BBSSIG:569] Re: routes and areas

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 11:59:45 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950216115525.25686B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

```
>
>
> On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:
>
> > Come to the tapr meeting...:-) But here is what my new standard
> > address will be: @k5di.las cruces.nm.usa.noam and IF the machine doesn't
> > like las (space) cruces it can be written las_cruces. ANCI C I recall is
> > confused by a space in a string when comparing to a list...
> > -karl k5di
>
> Karl, why worry about the space? Why not just skip it. What's wrong
> with k5di.lascruces.nm.usa.noam? While on the subject, maybe this is a
> dumb question but I've never heard a reason for it, why do programmers
> seem to insist on using an underline, a shifted character, instead of a
> hyphen, a non-shifted character?? Most of us don't need the extra
> keystrokes, we have our quota already! :)
>
> Gary
```

We don't skip it because it makes human reading 1000% faster. We add the - or _ because C has a desire to ignore blank spaces. I am not at this moment sure of the reason for this. Brian or other programmer's can better tell you the reason why. I dabble in C. I do it for pleasure.

73, de karl k5di

92. Re: [BBSSIG:572] Re: routes and areas

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 12:11:42 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950216120730.25686C-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank I will try and get the VuGraf data into plain ascii and get it to you. As for having all the data in *exactly* the proper format you can be sure it is not. I claim authorship for the concept...:-)

What I would like from you is an opinion on the idea, and changes if any to make the presentation more accurate. And I start the talk off by admitting I am re-inventing the wheel.

73, karl k5di

93. Re: [BBSSIG:573] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 95 11:41:08 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502161141.ZM10811@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 16, 1:18pm, Klarsen wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:573] Re: routes and areas

>

>

> On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>

> >

> >

> > On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> >

> > > Come to the tapr meeting...:-) But here is what my new standard

> > > address will be: @k5di.las cruces.nm.usa.noam and IF the machine doesn't

> > > like las (space) cruces it can be written las_cruces. ANCI C I recall is

> > > confused by a space in a string when comparing to a list...

> > > -karl k5di

> >

> > Karl, why worry about the space? Why not just skip it. What's wrong

> > with k5di.lascruces.nm.usa.noam? While on the subject, maybe this is a

> > dumb question but I've never heard a reason for it, why do programmers

> > seem to insist on using an underline, a shifted character, instead of a

> > hyphen, a non-shifted character?? Most of us don't need the extra

> > keystrokes, we have our quota already! :)

> >

> > Gary

> >

> We don't skip it because it makes human reading 1000% faster. We

> add the - or _ because C has a desire to ignore blank spaces. I am not at

> this moment sure of the reason for this. Brian or other programmer's can

> better tell you the reason why. I dabble in C. I do it for pleasure.

C has no "desire to ignore blank spaces".

We do it the way we do it because the software authors got together and spent a year hammering out a specification for the syntax of all these things, and we decided that embedded spaces/tabs were not a very good idea, for a number of reasons. So no spaces or tabs.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

94. Re: [BBSSIG:569] Re: routes and areas

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 20:45:52 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502170045.AA12830@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>

>

>On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

>

>> Come to the tapr meeting...:-) But here is what my new standard

>> address will be: @k5di.las cruces.nm.usa.noam and IF the machine doesn't

>> like las (space) cruces it can be written las_cruces. ANCI C I recall is

>> confused by a space in a string when comparing to a list...

>> -karl k5di

>

>Karl, why worry about the space? Why not just skip it. What's wrong

```
>with k5di.lascruces.nm.usa.noam?
>
>Gary
>
Beware that some BBS software does not permit address segments of
more than 6 chars (including # if used). So regardless of space, underline
or dash it might have to be @k5di.cruces.nm.usa.noam

73 - Ron
velaic@velaic.pe.can.noam
```

95. Re: [BBSSIG:573] Re: routes and areas

```
From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 20:18:40 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950216201308.22451A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

```
> We don't skip it because it makes human reading 1000% faster. We
> add the - or _ because C has a desire to ignore blank spaces. I am not at
> this moment sure of the reason for this. Brian or other programmer's can
> better tell you the reason why. I dabble in C. I do it for pleasure.
```

Uh, the last time I checked, Ansi C can be made to use spaces in any string... It only ignores blank spaces when it confuses them with white spaces. (ie. identifier and structure separation...)

That only happens if the program was coded poorly.

```
For example:
main() { printf("te st\n"); }
is the same as
main()
{
    printf("te st\n");
}
```

However, Ansi C ignores the spaces between the commands and the tabs. Not the space in the middle of the text.

So, it could be a space in theory...

As for a reason, I'm sure it's because someone decided on a standard, and everyone else used it...

```
73, de Bill, N3JIX
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

96. Re: [BBSSIG:567] Re: BPQ Tutorial

```
From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 95 19:42:53 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502170142.AA128895@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

Karl:

Thanks for volunteering to take on the task of writing a BPQ tutorial. Time frame: would something for the Digital Communications Conference be too close? There is a July call-for-papers date. I can see this becoming a pamphlet that TAPR could market, if you felt generous, or you could even market it yourself.

I'll restrain myself from becoming any more marketing-minded than that on the SIG ;-).

You can tell from the response that a BPQ tutorial would be welcome in many quarters. I just can't get a grasp of the virtual tnc's (COMBIOS) no matter how many times I read the docs.

Well, have a go at it Karl and everyone else on the SIG, pls encourage Karl in his effort. If you have some material that might help, such as

real-world examples of what you've got and a brief explanation of why you have things set up the way you do, forward them to Karl.

BTW, Karl: I have a real short explanation from W5IFP that I will send to you under separate cover. Thanks for your help and to all others on the SIG for your interest in this. We will probably do a lot of good if we see this thread through...

73 to all de Dave W05H

97. Re: [BBSSIG:568] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 95 19:46:19 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502170146.AA128912@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> >
> > In case there isn't any such tutorial available or no one wants to step
> > forward and create one, I'll collect the most interesting partial
> > explanations and BPQ tips, hints and kinks that are brought forth. If
> > we collect enough, maybe that will be the start to the kind of document
> > I am looking for...
> >
> > 73 and let's hear from you!
> >
> > Dave W05H
> > BBS SIG Chair
> >
> Dave
>
> This is a perfect example of why TAPR should promote my idea of educational
> and operating bltns. Once you figure out how to use BPQ, we need to
> tell the world. Well below 1% of SYSOPs will ever read this SIG or
> find an ftp site where this info would be available. Its gotta be
> sent to the world and TAPR outta do it.
>
> 73 Barry
>
>
I agree 100% Barry. No other group of folks is in the right positioning for this except for TAPR. I think the momentum and chemistry is right for the educational push you have in mind.

Are others of a similar frame of mind that education will solve many of the problems we perceive that we have on the air today?

Let's hear from you!

73 de Dave

98. Idea for distributing and retaining info on pkt

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 20:42:29 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502170242.UAA18471@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello group,

This is a long post and I plan to introduce several new ideas. I've broken this in segments which lend themselves to follow up comments.

Barry wa0rjt

Watching the traffic on the BBS SIG for the last few months I see several themes repeated at regular intervals. One item is user training. There are tons of people who have no idea how packet works, how forwarding works, how to ...

Hank points out, both repeatedly and correctly, that user education is a problem. I propose a SYSTEM for dealing with this issue by developing a mechanism for issuing information bulletins which would be retained on (hopefully) every BBS.

ABSTRACT

The SYSTEM involves TAPR originating a series of bulletins which contain details of good operating practice, technical discussions, "How To" and other information on digital modes. These would flood the network in the same manner as existing bulletins. At each BBS, these bulletins would be placed into a subdirectory according to a predefined structure which facilitates easy retrieval by users.

OUTLINE

A standard outline will be constructed and may look something like this:

1. Index
2. Personal Mail
- 2.1 Hierarchical Forwarding
- 2.2 HF Forwarding Guidelines
3. Bulletins
- 3.1 Local
- 3.2 Regional
- 3.3 National
- ..
- ..
- ..

BULLETIN STRUCTURE

Bulletins would originate at a single point determined by TAPR. A specific BID and text format would be used for all bulletins. Contained within the body of the text of the bulletin would be the section number, section title and text of the article.

These bulletins would be made available via TAPR-BB and other electronic media for introduction into the packet network at multiple locations, just as ARRL and AMSAT does now.

BIDs

The BID should indicate the section number. For example, a bulletin explaining how to address bulletins to specific regions would have a BID of BBS_0302001. Where:

BBS indicates the "BBS" subdirectory
the section number is "3.2"
this is element number "001"

FILE STRUCTURE

The outline would determine the file structure. From the previous example, the BID of BBS_0302001 would become the DOS file "0302.001" in the "BBS" directory. Similar directories would be constructed for the Network SIG and have sections for ROSE, NetRom, G8BPQ, etc.

RETRIEVAL

Users of the BBS could download the index and study it. Then individual topics would be downloaded as required. Having the filename be the section number is simple and easy for users to decipher.

BBS CODE CHANGES

Obviously this all takes some amount of work. I propose that the SYSTEM is best implemented either directly by the BBS author or by an add on program. The requirements for processing the special bulletins would be determined and made public. Elements of the program would be searching for the special BID, creating a file, and writing the data to a file in the proper directory. Further, protection from corruption could be provided by including a CRC when the file is created. The section number in the BID could be tested with the section number provided in the body of the message.

BUILDING A DOCUMENT

If you haven't already noticed, the BBS subdirectory now contains a series of files, with structured filenames, and containing plain ASCII text. A public domain program could be created to import all the files and build a complete document suitable to distribution to local clubs and new hams.

IN CLOSING

I haven't worked out every detail of this system. I wanted to see what the reaction would be. Please note that the solution to the training and education problem is complex. There is no reason to believe that a simple fix will suffice. This system puts in place a new mechanism for dealing with the lack of training. Try not to get bogged down commenting on the implementation details of the proposal, rather focus on how to pass this information to the masses in an organized format.

73 Barry wa0rjt

barry@ia.net

99. Re: [BBSSIG:580] Idea for distributing and retaining info on pkt

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 1995 01:29:48 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950217010444.8471A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 16 Feb 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Hello group,
>
> This is a long post and I plan to introduce several new ideas.
> I've broken this in segments which lend themselves to follow up
> comments.
>
> Barry wa0rjt
>
>
> Watching the traffic on the BBS SIG for the last few months I see
> several themes repeated at regular intervals. One item is user
> training. There are tons of people who have no idea how packet
> works, how forwarding works, how to ...

Large removal of text.....

d format> proposal, rather focus on how to pass this information to the masses > in an organized format.

>
>
> 73 Barry wa0rjt
>
> barry@ia.net
>

Barry your ideas are great and the bbs network could use some improvement in the quality of bulls, but the education process is more severe than that. The problem is how to train users to log onto a bbs! Once on it seems only a very small percentage get past the list all stage.

I am convinced the only way to reach the users is to print out the information in a "nice booklet". This is delivered at club meetings and coffee happenings. Then a regular discussion group on a repeater would help too. I ran a packet net on sunday afternoon for several months and it was amazing how many hams had TNC's in the junk box!

-karl k5di

100. Re: [BBSSIG:580] Idea for distributing and retaining info on pkt

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 1995 08:32:25 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502171232.AA17738@bud.peinet.pe.ca>

Rendered body type: text/plain

```
>
>Barry wa0rjt
>
>
>ABSTRACT
>
>The SYSTEM involves TAPR originating a series of bulletins which
>contain details of good operating practice, technical
>discussions, "How To" and other information on digital modes.
>These would flood the network in the same manner as existing
>bulletins. At each BBS, these bulletins would be placed into a
>subdirectory according to a predefined structure which
>facilitates easy retrieval by users.
>
>
[del]
>
>73 Barry wa0rjt
>
>barry@ia.net
>
```

Great idea Barry, I'll copy any such bulletins into our BBS Network here as soon as they are available.

73 - Ron
velaic@velaic.pe.can.noam

101. Re: [BBSSIG:562] Re: routes and areas

From: vodall@mtewe.UUCP
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 1995 11:03:14 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rfAXu-0002gQC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
> That said the principle I want to push is a standard pbbs address
> that has the form @callsign.local.state.country.continent and

> all valid
> addresses have something in each topic. This makes you and me add .local
> to our address
```

Karl,

Are you saying that every address HAS to have all 5 components. That I couldn't send a message to a local user without typing the whole thing out? That I couldn't send you a message in NM without adding the USA and NOAM?

As I'm more of a User than a BBS SYSOP, I probably send a half dozen AX25 messages a day. I currently put in the ".noam" for the example to the systems along the way than for anything else..

If it wasn't for that I'd sure feel I was wasting my time having to type those extraneous out-of-the-region parts of the address.

Please.... The "call.region.2.3.4" standard is a good thing. But let's recognize that the [region] is optional and if any address components are missing on the right side they should default to the local system values.

```
> With this standard address I think getting mail going the right
> direction will take less control file work.
```

The sysop has to set something only once. The user has to do it every time they enter a message. Convenience for the user is 99.5% of the operation. Convenience for the Sysop is the last 0.5%...

```
> * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
      ^^ ????? :-)
```

I better include the usual disclaimer for this well worn discussion that, outside of a few minor problems (forcing of routes when entering a message) things are working well and there isn't really a problem...

--

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam

102. Re: [BBSSIG:583] Re: routes and areas

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 1995 07:59:09 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950217075028.11725A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 17 Feb 1995 mtewe!vodall@kazak wrote:

> > That said the principle I want to push is a standard pbbs address
> > that has the form @callsign.local.state.country.continent and
>
> > all valid
> > addresses have something in each topic. This makes you and me add .local
> > to our address
>
> Karl,
>
> Are you saying that every address HAS to have all 5 components. That I
> couldn't send a message to a local user without typing the whole
> thing out? That I couldn't send you a message in NM without adding
> the USA and NOAM?

Do not panic...as things are today for local guys YOU KNOW are known to the H-route or better White Pages, you just type the callsign of the ham you wish to send to, and the pbbs adds the full address.

>
> As I'm more of a User than a BBS SYSOP, I probably send a half dozen AX25
> messages a day. I currently put in the ".noam" for the example
> to the systems along the way than for anything else..
>
> If it wasn't for that I'd sure feel I was wasting my time
> having to type those extraneous out-of-the-region parts of the
> address.
>
> Please.... The "call.region.2.3.4" standard is a good thing. But
> let's recognize that the [region] is optional and if any address components
> are missing on the right side they should default to the local system
> values.
>

You are missing the point. What you call region is the easiest to type since it is the name of a town where your buddy lives.

> > With this standard address I think getting mail going the right
> > direction will take less control file work.
>
> The sysop has to set something only once. The user has to
> do it every time they enter a message. Convenience for the user is
> 99.5% of the operation. Convenience for the Sysop is the last 0.5%...
>

Well if your pbbs isn't using WP Bill, I suggest you lobby him into doing that. It IS NEET!

> > * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
> ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
> ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
>

I just haven't got all the files changed yet...:-)

> I better include the usual disclaimer for this well worn discussion that,
> outside of a few minor problems (forcing of routes when entering a message)
> things are working well and there isn't really a problem...
>
> --
>
> Bill
>
> Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us

> Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam
>
>
>
73, de karl k5di

103. Re: [BBSSIG:567] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: David Hess NK3T <DHESS@UMES.UMD.EDU>
Date: Thu, 16 Feb 95 21:31:37 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502170234.VAA21879@umd5.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 16 Feb 1995 09:16:02 -0600 Klarsen said:
>
>
>On Wed, 15 Feb 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:
>
>> In my own struggle to grasp certain concepts in the (to me) complicated
>> world of software and hardware, I come up really short in a good
>> understanding of how the marvelous G8BPQ software works. I can make it
>> work for the simple tasks I use it for now (getting multiple ports to
>> 'talk' to one another and to AA4RE BBS application).
>
> Could not agree more fully Dave. The BPQ Switch is wonderful in
>that it does EXACTLY what it says it does, if you could ever figure out
>for sure what it DOES:-)
>
>
>>
>> Anyone with a good tutorial for the BPQ software? Anyone understand it
>> sufficiently enough to document your experience and create a decent
>> guideline?
>>
> Yes I am pretty expert on using BPQ and have used it for about 5
>years from version 3.x thru 4.8 now. I have used the IP Router and now
>connect to a DRSI card and a Tiny-2 with a kiss e-prom running 9600 baud.
>I can test the interconnect between computers and will do so. I run
>windows for work groups and will try to set that up and report what it
>does...I'm not at all sure.
>
>
>> In case there isn't any such tutorial available or no one wants to step
>> forward and create one, I'll collect the most interesting partial
>> explanations and BPQ tips, hints and kinks that are brought forth. If
>> we collect enough, maybe that will be the start to the kind of document
>> I am looking for...
>>
>> 73 and let's hear from you!
>>
>> Dave W05H
>> BBS SIG Chair
>>
> Dave I will take on the job of writing the BPQ tutorial. What is
>the time-frame?
>
>-karl k5di
>
Back in the old days (1991), KA1NNN wrote some information titled BBS and
BPQ that made it around the bulletin circuit. I still have all 9 parts of
the bulletins. If it would help, I could zip them up and place them somewhere
for ftp. Does TAPR have an ftp archive?
73 Dave NK3T

104. Re: [BBSSIG:585] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 1995 17:49:46 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502172349.RAA10867@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to David Hess NK3T:
> >
> Back in the old days (1991), KA1NNN wrote some information titled BBS and
> BPQ that made it around the bulletin circuit. I still have all 9 parts of
> the bulletins. If it would help, I could zip them up and place them somewhere
> for ftp. Does TAPR have an ftp archive?
> 73 Dave NK3T
>

Yes - there is an upload area within the BBSSIG group on ftp.tapr.org

Be sure to let Dave (dwolf@tcet.unt.edu) know what you had uploaded so he can move it.

Greg

105. Re: [BBSSIG:584] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 95 12:10:58 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502171210.ZM4038@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 17, 1:38pm, Klarsen wrote:

> You are missing the point. What you call region is the easiest to
> type since it is the name of a town where your buddy lives.

How will that work?

My system services some hundred or so towns and cities, in Oregon and Washington. All my users have a very simple email address consisting of their callsign (that's easy to remember!), my callsign (one more thing to remember, it's the name of their mail server), plus the state (if required) country (if required) and continent (if required).

Mostly, folks just use the callsign of the user they want to send the message to, since the rest of the info is in the WP database and is automatically supplied for them.

A point to think about though: what *is* my location?
Roughly 50% of my users are in Oregon, the other 50% are in Washington. I'm in Oregon, so *my* location is OR.USA.NOAM ...but what about my users?

Another point to think about: what should I use for local address? I'm in West Linn, so I could use that. Only 4% of my users are in West Linn though, and West Linn is not a well known name outside the local area. Portland is better known, but is 3 towns away from me, and is served by 15 or so BBS systems, only ONE of which is in Portland. Well, it's not really "Portland" ... the city itself is "Portland/Vancouver" with the "Portland" part being in Oregon and the "Vancouver" part being in Washington. No, not the famous "Vancouver", that is in BC about 400 miles (and 3 network hops) north of here.

I'm actually close to Dallas and St. Paul (and have users in those towns) ... they are in Oregon, not Texas or Minnesota.

What happens when n7koj moves from McMinnville to Aims?
Aims is not any many maps (which makes sense, it has a population that roughly doubled when n7koj moved there), and the folks that want to send messages to n7koj will have to be notified that he has moved and now must be addressed as n7koj@w0rli.aims.or.usa.noam instead of n7koj@w0rli.mcminnville.or.usa.noam. But wait! w0rli did not move, and in fact the only way that I noticed n7koj's move was that he told me about it (my signal is MUCH better up in Aims ...)
His address remained n7koj@w0rli.or.usa.noam.

What happens if I move? If I stay in Oregon, my address does not change. If I move to some other state, it DOES change, and the network will in some manner or another need to adjust.

Sorry for the ramble, just wanted to point out some of the problems we will need to address if we want to improve the existing system.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

Library Operations
"Parts 'R Us!"

106. The BBS spec.

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 95 12:13:22 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502171213.ZM4061@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

107. BPQ document 9 parts circa 1991 Author KA1NNN

From: David Hess NK3T <DHES@UMES.UMD.EDU>
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 95 21:10:50 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502180215.VAA02073@umd5.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Well, I did not ftp it to the tapr archive, as I need numbers! The system I use does not have an available domain server, so numbers only for ftp. It is a pain, but it works! These messages made their way around the BBS circuit several years ago, and may be helpful as a start for a BPQ document.
73 Dave NK3T

Part 1 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ1_9]

Software Nodes
by KA1NNN

Software Node packages such as G8BPQ, MSYS, TCP/IP, and others are becoming increasingly popular. Such software places the ability to have a network node in the home of any amateur who wants one. What are the benefits of such software? Should every user be using one or should a few special purpose stations such as BBS's or gateways be using them? And finally, what special considerations should be considered and what are the potential problems to the existing network?

This article attempts to look at these questions and will try to provide some insight into the use of "Ground Nodes".

Part 1: BBS and BPQ

With the packet population increasing, many BBS owners are finding that the single copy of their BBS software is not meeting the demands of the users and the network. The usual solution to this problem is to run multiple copies of the software under a management system. This system consists of two separate management programs. One, such as DESQVIEW, will manage the computers resources so that the multiple copies of the BBS software will run properly. The other will manage the communications resources so that multiple packet connections can take place. Probably the most common packet communications manager is the G8BPQ Software Node Package.

While most BBS sysops use the BPQ package for this reason, the BPQ code's primary design is for a software based Network Node such as TheNet. The documentation and configuration files suggest that BPQ should be set up as a Full Node.

Is this really what we want as BBS owners?

To "Node" or not to "Node"

The purpose for nodes is to provide intelligent management for packet traffic as opposed to digipeating. Network Nodes have the ability to provide error-free relays from site to site, to avoid collisions by sensing the surrounding traffic, and to provide end to end flow control on multi-node circuits. Digipeating could not do any of these things. Each relay was made without error checks, and was made instantaneously without any regard for traffic already on the air at the time.

While this is exactly what was needed to replace digipeaters, network nodes have little use for ground based user stations. In a network situation, error checking is already in place when a user station makes an ax.25 uplink to a node. Error checking always takes place between the originating and the destination station in an AX.25

connection. Once a packet has successfully reached the node, the users station is relieved of responsibility in getting the packet to its final destination and well as providing error checking. The network node now takes over looking at the frequency for the optimum time to key up, making the appropriate connections to other nodes to route the packet to its final destination, and managing all of the networks other traffic, routing, and circuits.

...Continued in Part 2 of 9
Part 2 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ2_9]

So why not use a network node as a ground based user station? Because all of this ability doesn't come without a price.. and that is overhead. In order to manage the stuff that nodes do, special addressing and control information in the form of a "network header" is attached to all inter-node packets, as well as additional packets meant only for other nodes, are generated with each network circuit. This is all necessary since nodes must be able to handle many users simultaneously. Since information for several users may be passing through the same link to another node, there must be this additional overhead to keep track of what information belongs to which user and to make sure it all gets to its destination in the proper sequence.

All of this is not needed for the average user station since they only have a single source of user information. All this additional overhead creates a burden on the frequency as well, unavoidable for the node with what is required of it, but is totally unnecessary for the user station.

All the user station needs is to make sure his packet gets to a node intact and error free. AX.25 handles this just fine with two simple signals - the information and the acknowledgment. Since 95% of all user stations are hidden transmitters, they do not have the ability to effectively "watch" the frequency for a quiet moment to transmit. The longer their transmission, the greater the chance of another hidden transmitter keying up and colliding with them. With the additional overhead required of Nodes, ground based users station are likely to cause considerable congestion to the network if they attempt to run as a node. With what was a simple exchange of information followed by a very short ack signal under AX.25, node operation required each end to transmit 2 additional information packets containing an extra 20 bytes for network node control. For what gain??? The same information can be passed under simple AX.25 with far less congestion!

There is NO advantage what-so-ever in piling additional protocol on top of an existing protocol that already does everything needed to provide intact, error-free communications!

(TCP software guru's should think about that one!)
(But that's another story)

...Continued in Part 3 of 9
Part 3 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ3_9]

So back to the original question: To "Node" or not to "Node"?

In most cases with BBS owners, the primary reason for running BPQ is to provide a platform for multi-connect operations to support multiple copies of the BBS software.

Here we have one of the highest volume traffic user stations.. the BBS. The "LAST" thing you want is to make the traffic MORE congested to your BBS! Obviously if you are going to the bother of setting up BPQ and multiple copies of the software, you are already over-congested now. Do you want 40 extra characters transmitted for EACH packet your BBS sends out? For EVERY user connected to your BBS?

Lets shift gears for a Sec.. the 2 meter LAN's are so congested in most areas that they are on the verge of collapse. This was due to the number of users and the fact that inter-node traffic (very channel hungry traffic) occurred on the same simplex frequency.

The solution to this was the backbone and many backbones have sprouted recently. This allowed the inter-node traffic, which everyone complained so bitterly about, to be moved to the backbone frequency where it was away from user traffic.

The key phrase here is: Inter-Node Traffic

Do we want to re-create this situation again by placing not only inter-node traffic back on the user LAN, but often BAD inter-node traffic in the fact that as a ground-based node, the hidden-transmitter aspects create far more collisions than did the inter-node traffic between mountain tops who had a reasonable ear for the frequency?

I think most people will agree that we don't need any more node congestion on the frequency.

Summation

The point of all this is NOT to discourage the use of the BPQ code, (if fact just the opposite) but rather to show a way to use the BPQ code to your ADVANTAGE not your disadvantage.

It is possible to use the BPQ code SOLELY for the purpose most sysops use it for: To provide a platform for multi-connects to feed multiple copies of their BBS software.

But NOT as a BBS Node... The answer is NOT to "Node"

Part 2 will look at various situations and will try to provide an alternate configuration for BPQ that will serve both the BBS and the Network to its fullest capacity.

Continued in Part 4 of 9

Part 4 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ4_9]

Part 2: BPQ Configuration Options

In all cases below, the primary objective is to insure that the BBS traffic up to and down from the node will occur at the AX.25 level only. When the BPQ network node is not needed in conjunction with the BBS, the process simply involves restricting the broadcasts from BPQ and to ignore the broadcasts from the nodes that BPQ can hear.

Since restricting BPQ from broadcasting altogether will prevent the creation of a node entry at the other node sites, all connections will be treated as a regular downlink to a user station and not an inter-node connection.

This is only half the problem however. To prevent the BPQ switch from attempting to establish inter-node links when it is called upon to make an outgoing connection, it is necessary to prevent the BPQ code from establishing node entries for the nodes it hears, or hears "of".

By restricting the incoming broadcasts, BPQ will never establish entries in its node table. Since there are no node entries, all connections BPQ is called upon to make will be treated as user connections at the AX.25 level - even if the callsign happens to be a node.

Case 1: Single Frequency BBS

With a single frequency BBS, the configuration of BPQ is very simple.

In the BPQCFG.TXT File:

Under "Station Identification" Section -

Set the NODECALL and BBSCALL to the same callsign - the one you intend to be your BBS Callsign.

Likewise, set the NODEALIAS and BBSALIAS to be the same - usually to BBSxxx where xxx are the last 1, 2 or 3 letters of your Call.

Under "Network System Parameters"

```

Set NODESINTERVAL=0      ; This disables BPQ Broadcasts

Set IDINTERVAL=0         ; OPTIONAL - Don't use if you expect
                        ; that local users will be connecting
                        ; to your BBS ALIAS rather than your
                        ; callsign. This would be unidentified
                        ; communications if connection
                        ; extended beyond 10 minutes. If no
                        ; local direct connect users, then use
                        ; this line.

```

Under "Configuration Options" Section -

```

Set BBS=1               ; Include support for BBS
Set NODE=0              ; Don't include Node Support

```

Under "AX25 PORT DEFINITIONS" Section -

```

Set QUALITY=0           ; This disables incoming broadcasts from
                        ; establishing node entries in the BPQ node
                        ; table.

```

This completes the changes in the BPQCFG.TXT

Your BPQ code will now act as a simple AX.25 multi-connect platform.

One note concerning the forward file. Make sure that the first connection issued after connecting to the switch is a neighboring node, one that you can directly connect to, as opposed to a distant node that might have once been in the switch's node table. Since the node table no longer contains routing to distant nodes, a user connection to a neighboring node is needed first and then the connection to the distant node can be requested.

...Continued in Part 5 of 9
Part 5 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ5_9]

Case 2: Multiple Frequency BBS

Follow the changes listed in Case #1 above.

Note that under the "AX25 PORT DEFINITIONS" section however, QUALITY=0 must be set in EACH PORT YOU DEFINE!

This completes the changes needed for BPQCFG.TXT

The Forward file requires some minor changes however. After connecting to the switch, your connect statements are treated as USER connections. Since there are multiple ports, a port number will be required when you make your uplink to the node.

When the switch contained node entries, this was unnecessary as the node entry contained the port number. With the node entries removed, all connections are considered USER connections and thus with multiple ports, require a port number. Include these in your forward file in the connect statement following the C SWITCH statement.

Case 1 & 2 present the most common situation in the case of the BBS sysop. Your BBS will run faster, smoother, and will add much less congestion to the surrounding network providing the maximum benefit for all users including yourself.

Case 3: Node and BBS Combination

In rare cases, the Node and the BBS may both be required. This may be due to the fact a BBS location is extremely high or is located in a strategic place. Or perhaps to provide a gateway between existing networks.

However, even with the Network Node option of BPQ, it is still totally unnecessary to force the BBS to also be a node. The BBS can still work at the AX.25 level if some simple changes are made to BPQ configuration.

Make the following change to your existing BPQCFG.TXT

Under "Network System Parameters" Section -

```
Set BBSQUAL=1      ; Lower BBS Quality to a level where it will
                   ; no longer be accepted in the node tables
                   ; of the surrounding nodes.
```

...Continued in Part 6 of 9

Part 6 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ6_9]

Even though there will be an entry for the surrounding Nodes in the BPQ node table, since the surrounding nodes no longer have a node entry with the BBS callsign, the Node will make a AX.25 level downlink rather than an inter-node link.

Since Nodes will respond at the same level at which they are connected to, the BPQ code will respond at the AX.25 level since the incoming level was AX.25 despite the fact that a node entry exists for the node making the connection. (Even if the node callsign itself made a connection to BPQ, if the connection was at the AX.25 level, it will be responded to also at the AX.25 level)

This solves half the problem - the users connection to the BBS. However, when the BBS has outgoing traffic and connects to the SWITCH and requests a connection to a node, it will still occur with an inter-node connection since the command requesting a connection contains the name of a node in the node table.

By the operating rules of a node, the table is always checked first to see if that callsign or alias belongs to one of the node entries. If found, an inter-node connection will be attempted. Since we want outgoing traffic from the BBS to be at the AX.25 level, this creates a problem when dealing with the SWITCH.

There is a solution. The SWITCH can be "fooled" into making an AX.25 connection despite the fact the node exists in the node table.

By connecting to a nodes ALIAS WITH ANY SSID, the BPQ will make an AX.25 USER connection. For example: If the node CAM:KA1NNN-3 is desired to be connected to at the AX.25 level, then: C CAM-1 will achieve this. or CAM-2, or CAM-15 any SSID will work.

This is possible because the ALIAS of CAM-1 does not exist in the BPQ Node Table, therefore it is treated as a regular user connection. Multiple Port Setups will require a port number as with all User connections. (i.e. C 2 CAM-1)

This will allow BBS forwards to uplink at the AX.25 level and same considerable time and congestion.

...Continued in Part 7 of 9

Part 7 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ7_9]

Part 3: Other Systems, KISS Parameters & Closing Thoughts

MSYS

MSYS users should never use the BBSNODE for all the reasons mentioned above. Set BBSNODE OFF in the MSYS.DO file.

MSYS users should also be aware that the MSYS Node has some real problems. Avoid the use of the MSYS Node for network routing. It has a buffer problem that causes it to skip frames. It also does not handle the NAK signal correctly by waiting for a Level 4 timeout rather than re-transmitting as soon as the NAK is received.

If you use the MSYS Node for TCP, disable the Node broadcasts by setting OCMin to number HIGHER than the value given to OCInit. (The default values do this already) Also set your Node window and Maxframe to 2. This minimizes, but doesn't eliminate, the buffer problems.

TCP/IP

With TCP/IP, the structure of the TCP/IP routing system forces the use of the ground Node in order for TCP/IP to

perform its own flow control. This is unavoidable when it comes to actual TCP/IP communications.

However, users of TCP can provide some relief to themselves and to the network by using the AX.25 options whenever possible. Make your AX.25 world connection at the AX.25 level as opposed to the netrom level. This avoids using your station as a ground node when it isn't absolutely necessary.

TCP/IP has its own set of unique problems when used as a "netrom bridge". However, they are contained within the software design itself and can not be cured without major changes to the TCP/IP Software package and therefore is beyond the scope of this discussion.

...Continued in Part 8 of 9
Part 8 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ8_9]

KISS Parameters

KISS operations differ from standard TNC operations in the fact that 90% of the work the TNC used to perform is now handled by the computer. The only things the KISS TNC handles directly are: TXDELAY, PERSISTENCE, & SLOTTIME. All other parameters are remotely handled by the computer.

Under these circumstances, certain parameters require some special consideration from the values used in normal TNC operations. These are FRACK and RESPTIME.

A standard TNC will define the start of the FRACK period from when the packet is actually transmitted. A KISS FRACK period is defined from when it LEAVES THE COMPUTER. Since the computer has NO idea when the TNC has transmitted the packet, KISS FRACK times should be increased by approximately 2 seconds to account for delays from the time the TNC receives the packet, to when it has the ability to actually transmit it. If the channel is extremely busy, you may want to increase the FRACK even more since the TNC may get so delayed, that the computer may send a retry before the first packet has even had the chance to be transmitted! This will result in two identical packets being transmitted since once they enter the TNC buffer, there is no way to cancel them.

RESPTIME has the same problem from being generated within the TNC under standard operation to when KISS mode is used. A response time of zero is often used in a standard TNC. As each frame is received, the response packet is overwritten with next higher number. When the channel is clear, only ONE response is sent containing the highest frame number received correctly.

However, under KISS mode, if a zero response time is used, the computer will generate a response packet for each frame received and it will be sent out to the TNC BUFFER! Since the buffer can not be overwritten, the TNC will send a whole stream of response packets. This will cause frames that have already been received correctly to be resent since the node will always respond with the frame number that the response packet indicates it is ready for.

...Continued in Part 9 of 9
Part 9 of 9 "BBS and BPQ" BID [BBSBPQ9_9]

For example: If the Node sends frames 2,3 & 4 the computer KISS mode will generate response frames indicating readiness for frames 3,4 & 5. All of these response packets are stored in the TNC buffer and will be transmitted.

Since the first response packet the node will receive is the one for frame 3, it will send frame 3 again. The next one the node receives will be for frame 4 and it will send 4. Note that 3 & 4 were ALREADY received correctly, but due to the zero RESPTIME setting, the computer generated and sent these responses to the TNC buffer where they can't be taken back or changed.

So, under KISS mode use a RESPTIME of no less than 1 Sec. The higher the node's maxframe, the more RESPTIME you will

need under KISS mode to prevent the generation of redundant frames by the node. KISS mode must have enough RESPTIME to allow the node to complete all the frames it sends in one burst before the computer generates its response packet.

Closing Thoughts

I hope this article has been helpful to those now running software nodes and to those who may in the future. As a network manager, I see the increasing popularity of packet straining our resources. It is important to work together to maximize the use of the networks for the enjoyment of all.

I invite any comments, questions, or suggestions to be sent to KA1NNN @ KA1NNN.ME.USA.NA

Thanks for reading and Happy Networking!

73, Mark Marston KA1NNN

108. Re: [BBSSIG:581] Re: Idea for distributing...

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 1995 21:29:28 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502180329.VAA21841@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> >
> Barry your ideas are great and the bbs network could use some
> improvement in the quality of bulls, but the education process is more
> severe than that. The problem is how to train users to log onto a bbs!
> Once on it seems only a very small percentage get past the list all stage.

I agree, Karl. The "list all function, as we know it, should be eliminated. The reason users do that is because it's easy. As long as we let them get by with that, they'll continue to use it.

73 Barry

109. RE: [BBSSIG:578] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: FRANZIML@snyalfva.cc.alfredtech.edu (Michael Franzino)
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 1995 08:37 +0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502201847.MAA00105@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Does anyone know where I can FTP the new version of BPQ for OS/2 from??? I tried ftp.demon.co.uk but the link was slow and I could not log onto the system. It would not except anonymous or guest as a username.

-MIKE-

FRANZIML@SNYALFVA.CC.ALFREDTECH.EDU

110. [BBSSIG:587] Re: routes and areas

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Fri, 17 Feb 95 19:08:57 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502201848.MAA00121@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The purpose of the local designator was to make life easier for routing and to move messages faster. Example: California was broken into regions. You could have two California stations on an HF channel with one in Northern California and one in Southern California. Which is closer to AA4RE? Well, with the region designator, the other HF stations didn't have to know. They use the #CENCA and sent it to the appropriate station. It also benefitted local sysops in that I only have to worry about systems in my region.

State is not granular enough, city is too granular.

Roy

111. Re: [BBSSIG:589] BPQ document 9 parts circa 1991 Author KA1NNN

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sat, 18 Feb 1995 11:06:21 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <199502181706.LAA26185@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'll post the new IP address as soon as I know what it is....things are changing Monday morning.

Greg

According to David Hess NK3T:

>
> Well, I did not ftp it to the tapr archive, as I need numbers! The system
> I use does not have an available domain server, so numbers only for ftp.
> It is a pain, but it works! These messages made their way around the BBS
> circuit several years ago, and may be helpful as a start for a BPQ document.
> 73 Dave NK3T
>
>
>

112. Re: [BBSSIG:589] BPQ document 9 parts circa 1991 Author KA1NNN

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Sat, 18 Feb 1995 16:03:37 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950218155612.7495A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi David, I got your papers from KA1NNN and studied them. I found the paper was more about the network problems of the 1991 time-frame than BPQ, and it contained some rather strange configurations of the Switch that made it NOT a netrom node. This I see as a strange way to run the Switch since it's a complete re-write of the netrom concept and superior to all other netrom configurations I have seen, and I have seen a bunch!

But I will include the information about configuring without the netrom node in case a reader lives where this is considered "the best way".

Thank You!

73, de karl k5di

113. Re: [BBSSIG:585] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Sat, 18 Feb 1995 07:48:32 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950218074451.1642A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 17 Feb 1995, David Hess NK3T wrote:

> On Thu, 16 Feb 1995 09:16:02 -0600 Klarsen said:
> >
> >
> >
> >On Wed, 15 Feb 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:
> >
> >> In my own struggle to grasp certain concepts in the (to me) complicated
> >> world of software and hardware, I come up really short in a good
> >> understanding of how the marvelous G8BPQ software works. I can make it
> >> work for the simple tasks I use it for now (getting multiple ports to
> >> 'talk' to one another and to AA4RE BBS application).
> >> Lots removed
> >
> > Back in the old days (1991), KA1NNN wrote some information titled BBS and
> > BPQ that made it around the bulletin circuit. I still have all 9 parts of
> > the bulletins. If it would help, I could zip them up and place them somewhere
> > for ftp. Does TAPR have an ftp archive?
> > 73 Dave NK3T
> >

Dave I would love to see those 9 messages! There is a place that you can ftp and upload tapr stuff and I will dig it out.

-73, de karl k5di

114. Re: [BBSSIG:587] Re: routes and areas

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Sat, 18 Feb 1995 08:05:23 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950218075302.1642B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 17 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Feb 17, 1:38pm, Klarsen wrote:
>
> > You are missing the point. What you call region is the easiest to
> > type since it is the name of a town where your buddy lives.
>
> How will that work?

You reach over to the keyboard and press the keys Hank...:-)

> My system services some hundred or so towns and cities, in Oregon
> and Washington. All my users have a very simple email address
> consisting of their callsign (that's easy to remember!), my callsign
> (one more thing to remember, it's the name of their mail server),
> plus the state (if required) country (if required) and continent
> (if required).
>

Please note that I suggested he would use WP just like now.

> Mostly, folks just use the callsign of the user they want to send
> the message to, since the rest of the info is in the WP database
> and is automatically supplied for them.
>
> A point to think about though: what *is* my location?
> Roughly 50% of my users are in Oregon, the other 50% are in Washington.
> I'm in Oregon, so *my* location is OR.USA.NOAM ...but what about
> my users?
>

No problem at all Hank. They use YOUR Computer. So the singular address remains your callsign.

> Another point to think about: what should I use for local address?
> I'm in West Linn, so I could use that. Only 4% of my users are in
> West Linn though, and West Linn is not a well known name outside
> the local area. Portland is better known, but is 3 towns away from me,
> and is served by 15 or so BBS systems, only ONE of which is in Portland.
> Well, it's not really "Portland" ... the city itself is "Portland/Vancouver"
> with the "Portland" part being in Oregon and the "Vancouver" part being
> in Washington. No, not the famous "Vancouver", that is in BC about 400
> miles (and 3 network hops) north of here.
>
> I'm actually close to Dallas and St. Paul (and have users in those
> towns) ... they are in Oregon, not Texas or Minnesota.
>

No change from the older system. They are xxxx.dallas.OR.usa.noam just like now as they are xxxx.#swor.OR.usa.na but I can READ dallas and can't read #swor except to notice that it has OR in it, but I know it's OR because it IS in Oregon...

> What happens when n7koj moves from McMinnville to Aims?
> Aims is not any many maps (which makes sense, it has a population that
> roughly doubled when n7koj moved there), and the folks that want to
> send messages to n7koj will have to be notified that he has moved
> and now must be addressed as n7koj@w0rli.aims.or.usa.noam instead of
> n7koj@w0rli.mcminnville.or.usa.noam. But wait! w0rli did not move,
> and in fact the only way that I noticed n7koj's move was that he told
> me about it (my signal is MUCH better up in Aims ...)
> His address remained n7koj@w0rli.or.usa.noam.
>

Exactly the same thing that happens now.

> What happens if I move? If I stay in Oregon, my address does not
> change. If I move to some other state, it DOES change, and the network
> will in some manner or another need to adjust.

Exactly the same thing that happens now.

>
> Sorry for the ramble, just wanted to point out some of the problems
> we will need to address if we want to improve the existing system.
>
> ... Hank
>

Hank please point out in detail the code problem you would have with an address having a 10 byte component.

```
>
>
> --
>
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics      Library Operations
> Internet      : hank_oredson@mentorg.com  "Parts 'R Us!"
> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM
>
73, karl, k5di
```

115. JNOS timer question

From: Terrence Ryan <n3fih@omni.voicenet.com>
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 00:29:53 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950220001433.28733A-100000@omni>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I make a point to embarrass myself publically at least once a month, so here's February's effort:

Using JNOS 1.10h, I've noticed the retry backoff doubling itself into an approximation of infinity, so I started tweaking values. With

```
ax25 blimit 15
ax25 irtt 5
ax25 timertype linear
ax25 maxwait 15
```

I would expect the limit to max at 15000 ms., but there seems to be no change from the default. What am I missing?

Tnx, Terry n3fih

116. Re: [BBSSIG:591] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 12:48:28 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950220124558.17833B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Feb 1995, Michael Franzino wrote:

```
> Does anyone know where I can FTP the new version of BPQ for OS/2 from???
> I tried ftp.demon.co.uk but the link was slow and I could not log onto the
> system. It would not except anonymous or guest as a username.
>
> -MIKE-
>
> FRANZIML@SNYALFVA.CC.ALFREDTECH.EDU
>
```

Try ftp.ucsd.edu and the hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming directory. It's called bpq408a.zip and it is working here fine.

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

117. Re: [BBSSIG:597] JNOS timer question

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 12:58:56 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950220125458.17833C-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Feb 1995, Terrence Ryan wrote:

```
> I make a point to embarrass myself publically at least once a month, so
> here's February's effort:
```

This will do just fine Terrence...:-)

```

>
> Using JNOS 1.10h, I've noticed the retry backoff doubling itself into an
> approximation of infinity, so I started tweaking values. With
>   ax25 blimit 15
>   ax25 irtt 5
>   ax25 timertype linear
>   ax25 maxwait 15
>           ^^ that is a mighty fast maxwait! 15 msec doesn't give a
packet time to get far...so do try 15000 and the ax25 will be kicked into
action every 15 seconds of no activity. I use 30000 and it seems also to
be fine.

> I would expect the limit to max at 15000 ms., but there seems to be no
> change from the default. What am I missing?
>
> Tnx, Terry n3fih
>
>
>
73, karl k5di

```

118. TAPR.ORG Location Change

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 15:23:15 -0600 (CST)
To: tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing),
netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing), dsp-93@tapr.org (DSP-93 Build),
hfsig@tapr.org (HF SIG mailing), aprssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502202123.PAA09624@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

TAPR.ORG has been relocated and has a new numeric IP address of:

204.96.214.85

DNS servers should have been updated starting yesterday.....but just in case yours is a little slow, you can use the numeric IP until things get fully updated.

The new location allows for a faster connection into Internet which should help the site in the long run.

Thanks to Lee, N5LYT, for his continued help and effort on the TAPR.ORG site.

Cheers - Greg

119. Re: [BBSSIG:596] Re: routes and areas

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 95 13:29:39 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502201329.ZM11644@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 20, 1:24pm, Klarsen wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:596] Re: routes and areas

```

> > Sorry for the ramble, just wanted to point out some of the problems
> > we will need to address if we want to improve the existing system.
> >
> > ... Hank
> >
> >
> Hank please point out in detail the code problem you would have
> with an address having a 10 byte component.

```

I did not say that I would have a code problem, or that any particular author would have a code problem, or for that matter that there would even be a code problem. The reason I didn't say it is that there IS no code problem.

There is a coordination problem.

It is very hard to make any change that might not work with existing applications. There are a LOT of existing applications that use these fields, and many of those applications expect a maximum of six characters per element. If we change to more than six, some of those

existing applications will break. We do not know which ones. We need to find out which will break, and what needs to be done to allow the network to continue to work if they do break.

It's simply a coordination problem: when and how the change is made.

That is, it is a problem if we DO decide to make this change.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

120. Re: [BBSSIG:590] Re: Idea for distributing...

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sat, 18 Feb 95 6:14:33 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502181214.AA147276@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

One approach could be a form of client-server software with a user shell, like a Web browser or CompuServe Information Manager that takes the streams of incoming data and gives you a fancy GUI to work with. Conversely, instead of typing verbose commands, you point your mouse at an icon or item in a list, click, and the software generates the appropriate characters that are sent to the BBS to do their thing.

Such a shell could be designed for use with the current bbs software available. For maximum efficiency, a true client-server arrangement could be obtained if both parts of the software were designed at the same time. Perhaps some background handshaking could occur between the host and users and info passed continuously with more detailed info being passed on demand.

Dave W05H

121. RE: [BBSSIG:591] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 18:10:40 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950220181040.182c7@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

It's on ftp.funet.fi - at least that's where I got it from. You'll need to be patient and try several times to get in because they have a max of 70 anonymous ftp users at any one time.

73, Ed

122. NA VS. NOAM

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.08.120])
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 95 01:19:18 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <68764@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Question -

When are the BBS op's of the nation going to switch or set a policy to switch to the *.NOAM naming convention?

This is crucial for internet to BBS mail. I fight this one all the time. It is a simple change and at least on the TCP/IP groups it has been discussed on and off for over a year.

I hate to tell you BBS op's but the world is TCP/IP and with the "information super hiway" taking us by storm this is becoming more and more so each day. The necessity for internet (and amprnet) to/from the BBS world mail is increasing also. Besides the other incompatibilities in our mail systems the .NA is an easy one to fix. I wish you all would - how about a message to all US BBS's setting a date for this to occur?

To take this abit further - why do BBS's limit the 'TO' field length thus limiting a user from entering something like:

w3xyz%w3zzz.ampr.org@wa3dsp.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM

assuming the (left of @) address were valid this should be a perfectly legal address, passed on intact until it reaches the wa3dsp BBS destination - which in this case is a JNOS BBS able to handle the TCP/IP address.

I don't see much discussion on this. Perhaps this will spark some.

73 Doug - wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org crompton@nadc.nadc.navy.mil

123. Re: [BBSSIG:591] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 20:05:27 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <v01510100ab6eec9de03c@[44.122.0.4]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Does anyone know where I can FTP the new version of BPQ for OS/2 from???
>I tried ftp.demon.co.uk but the link was slow and I could not log onto the
>system. It would not except anonymous or guest as a username.
>
>-MIKE-
>
>FRANZIML@SNYALFVA.CC.ALFREDTECH.EDU

You'll find it in my home page at:

<http://www.southwind.net/~k0hyd>

Enjoy

73 de Dale
INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam
Also: k0hyd.ampr.org [44.122.0.4]
Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)

124. Re: [BBSSIG:591] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 20:09:22 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <v01510101ab6eed7813a3@[44.122.0.4]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Does anyone know where I can FTP the new version of BPQ for OS/2 from???

Here's the ftp directory. Missed it in my earlier post with www address.

<ftp://ftp.southwind.net/users/k/k0hyd/bpq408a.zip>

Enjoy

73 de Dale
INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam
Also: k0hyd.ampr.org [44.122.0.4]
Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)

125. Re: [BBSSIG:604] NA VS. NOAM

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 95 18:17:00 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502201817.ZM13239@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 20, 8:08pm, Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.08.120] wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:604] NA VS. NOAM

>

> Question -

>

> When are the BBS op's of the nation going to switch or set a policy

> to switch to the *.NOAM naming convention?

Jan 1, 1995

It has happened.

> This is crucial for internet to BBS mail. I fight this one all the
> time. It is a simple change and at least on the TCP/IP groups it
> has been discussed on and off for over a year.
>
> I hate to tell you BBS op's but the world is TCP/IP and with the
> "information super hiway" taking us by storm this is becoming more
> and more so each day. The necessity for internet (and amprnet) to/from
> the BBS world mail is increasing also. Besides the other incompatibilities
> in our mail systems the .NA is an easy one to fix. I wish you all
> would - how about a message to all US BBS's setting a date for this
> to occur?

The message was sent, several times, in November and December.
Any bbs that has not changed probably just missed the announcements.

Oh ... "... the world is tcp/ip ..." ??? Well, perhaps a small part,
but most of the network traffic in the world is not tcp/ip ...

What's that got to do with anything anyway?

The issue you raised was addressing not transport.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

126. Re: [BBSSIG:607] Re: NA VS. NOAM

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.08.120])
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 95 03:06:52 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <68786@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank,

Ok well it seems that many BBS either missed that announcement or
ignored it.

On TCP/IP - well in the world of mail transfer on the internet what
other method is used besides primarily the TCP client/server SMTP?
Sure AOL, Prodigy and a zillion others have there own mail thing but
most are now interfacing to the internet domain named mail system.

I was told that BBS traffic had to go to some W7?? gateway to get
the internet with the smtp address in the subject (or was it
first message) line. Talk about the dark ages.

Hundreds of TCP/IP BBS's could do this today if the darn
address could be passed in the 'to' field.

The SMTP protocol was here long before any Amateur BBS's. The
original BBS authors chose to do it there own way, partially for
good reasons due to the unique nature of Amateur traffic. Unfortunately
what is now in place is the way it will more than likely stay due
to the resistance to change (as evidenced by the .na/.noam) and the
large number of different BBS programs and the lack of a rigid
standard.

Personally I think it (the BBS's) are all in danger of becoming
obsoleted. Actually if you ask many TCP'ers they would say that
has already happenned but then 50 years from now we will still
have Hams using BBS's because it is a like a mode - AM, CW etc.
and they will be typing away on there 8088 IBM PC's happily unaware
that the world changed at all.

Doug

127. Re: [BBSSIG:602] Re: Idea for distributing...

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 23:13:27 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502210413.AA25253@panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>One approach could be a form of client-server software with a user
>shell, like a Web browser or CompuServe Information Manager that
>takes the streams of incoming data and gives you a fancy GUI to work
>with. Conversely, instead of typing verbose commands, you point your
>mouse at an icon or item in a list, click, and the software generates
>the appropriate characters that are sent to the BBS to do their thing.

This is exactly what I've been trying to promte for quite a while!

>
>Such a shell could be designed for use with the current bbs software
>available. For maximum efficiency, a true client-server arrangement
>could be obtained if both parts of the software were designed at the
>same time. Perhaps some background handshaking could occur between the
>host and users and info passed continuously with more detailed info being
>passed on demand.

There's a simple addition to the existing BBS protocol which I believe would accomplish what is needed.

Currently BBSs offer bulletins to each other using the BID. If client software could *request* bulletins by BID...

BBSs could create a list of new bulletins once a given time period (day, 12hrs, whatever). This list would include the usual "L"ist command data, but with the addition of the bulletin's BID. Client software could connect (or be connected to) once during each time period and receive this list.

The Client software would present the list to the user for tagging. Then the client would request the tagged bulletins the next time it connects to (or is connected to by) the BBS. This would either be at a programmed time or "forced" by the user.

In addition, it would be helpful if BBS authors could add the ability of users to create a "request profile". This profile would be a list of message To, From, Subject, or perhaps even text contained within the message body, which the user always wants to read. Bulletins meeting this profile would automatically be sent to the user.

Of course, personal messages would also be automatically be sent to the user.

This is something which is almost do-able with ROSErver/PRMBS. It supports REQMSG messages which request messages based upon BID. See my paper "A Personal PBBS Using ROSErver/PRMBS" from the ARRL CNC of several years back. (I can't recall the year at this moment. If there's interest I'll make the paper available on my WWW page.)

73, Andy

--

_____ Tech Producer/Editor WCBS-TV Channel 2 News New York, NY USA		_____ Internet: kb7uv@panix.com http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE ---
---	--	--

128. Re: [BBSSIG:604] NA VS. NOAM

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 22:36:14 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502210436.WAA26388@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.08.120]:

>
>
> Question -
>
> When are the BBS op's of the nation going to switch or set a policy
> to switch to the *.NOAM naming convention?

Folks should already be trying to switch over to it. The TAPR BoD ratified the BBS SIG's recommendation on January 31st.

129. Re: [BBSSIG:609] Re: Idea for distributing...

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 1995 23:48:06 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502202359.A24579-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Feb 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:

> There's a simple addition to the existing BBS protocol which I believe would
> accomplish what is needed.
>
> Currently BBSs offer bulletins to each other using the BID. If client
> software could *request* bulletins by BID...

TPK does this with message numbers instead of BID.

> BBSs could create a list of new bulletins once a given time period (day,
> 12hrs, whatever). This list would include the usual "L"ist command data,
> but with the addition of the bulletin's BID. Client software could connect
> (or be connected to) once during each time period and receive this list.

TPK

> The Client software would present the list to the user for tagging. Then the
> client would request the tagged bulletins the next time it connects to (or
> is connected to by) the BBS. This would either be at a programmed time or
> "forced" by the user.

TPK

> In addition, it would be helpful if BBS authors could add the ability of
> users to create a "request profile". This profile would be a list of
> message To, From, Subject, or perhaps even text contained within the message
> body, which the user always wants to read. Bulletins meeting this profile
> would automatically be sent to the user.
>
> Of course, personal messages would also be automatically be sent to the user.

Correct me if I'm wrong, but TPK already does all of this in conjunction
with its parent FBB board. I'm not pushing TPK, just saying it is
already there.

I still favor some sort of separation of mail and bulletins. Like
internet, let the mail be a different function.

Gary

130. (Was NA VS. NOAM)

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Mon, 20 Feb 95 22:24:23 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502210728.BAA19674@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In defense of the amateur BBS network, it's here and it works! It has
been working quite well for a number of years. TCP/IP mail is fine if
you are using the NON-AMATEUR INTERNET SYSTEM. Just try sending mail via
tcpip across the country, or even around the world, strictly by amateur
means and see what happens! In this part of Aridzona, it don't go very
far. The amateur BBS system on the other hand, will handle traffic with
pretty good reliability to just about any point on the globe.

Sure, there may be an occasional glitch with the ham network, but for
gosh sakes, glitches have been know to happen here on the internet as well!

I don't advocate we sit on our duffs and not improve the technology, but
I am saying that our present day system isn't something to throw rocks at.
Specially when you consider the amount of private investment we hams have
put into making it happen. As K5DI once mentioned, we will NEVER have
the capital to invest into wideband data networking that AT&T has.

As providers around the country give us cheaper internet access, we find
ourselves dealing with the amateur vs. internet "situation". If we are
sliding towards relying more on the internet to handle amateur traffic,
more attention has to be paid to internet compatability issues. If the
issues can be resolved to work well on both amateur and the internet

systems, then perhaps that would be the best route to take.

I believe we have an exciting future ahead of us and as long as my trusty old 8088 XT clone is capable of pulling the traffic from the local BBS, I'll hang onto it :-)

73 de Jack

131. Re: [BBSSIG:594] Re: BPQ document 9 parts circa 1991 Author KA1NNN

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 07:50:45 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950221074935.2434A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> BPQ, and it contained some rather strange configurations of the Switch
> that made it NOT a netrom node. This I see as a strange way to run the

Yes, I noticed that too, however, that is what I needed to know.
(Disable the node stuff on my user ports...)

> But I will include the information about configuring without the
> netrom node in case a reader lives where this is considered "the best way".

That sounds great, thanks Karl!

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****  
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *  
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *  
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *  
*****
```

132. Re: [BBSSIG:601] Re: routes and areas

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 07:27:55 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950221072639.2231A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Feb 20, 1:24pm, Klarsen wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:596] Re: routes and areas
>
> > > Sorry for the ramble, just wanted to point out some of the problems
> > > we will need to address if we want to improve the existing system.
> > >
> > > ... Hank
> > >
> > >
> > Hank please point out in detail the code problem you would have
> > with an address having a 10 byte component.
>
> I did not say that I would have a code problem, or that any particular
> author would have a code problem, or for that matter that there would
> even be a code problem. The reason I didn't say it is that there IS
> no code problem.
>
> There is a coordination problem.
>
> It is very hard to make any change that might not work with existing
> applications. There are a LOT of existing applications that use these
> fields, and many of those applications expect a maximum of six
> characters per element. If we change to more than six, some of those
> existing applications will break. We do not know which ones. We need
> to find out which will break, and what needs to be done to allow the
> network to continue to work if they do break.
>
> It's simply a coordination problem: when and how the change is made.
>
> That is, it is a problem if we DO decide to make this change.
>
> ... Hank
>
Thanks Hank!

-karl k5di

133. Re: [BBSSIG:603] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 07:30:01 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950221072919.2231B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Feb 1995, EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR. wrote:

> It's on ftp.funet.fi - at least that's where I got it from. You'll need
> to be patient and try several times to get in because thaey have a max of
> 70 anonymous ftp users at any one time.
>
> 73, Ed
>
What is on that computer Ed?

-karl k5di

134. Re: [BBSSIG:603] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: Richard.Saue@jur.uib.no (Richard Saue)
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 14:56:15 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <v01510103ab6fbe225da8@[129.177.155.182]>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi!

Edward J. Sadowski wrote:

>It's on ftp.funet.fi - at least that's where I got it from. You'll need
>to be patient and try several times to get in because thaey have a max of
>70 anonymous ftp users at any one time.

It might bee smoother using WWW (?). Try:

Http://www.funet.fi:80/pub/ham

Works great from Norway....

73 de Richard - LA4SGA

135. Re: [BBSSIG:613] Re: BPQ document 9 parts circa 1991 Author KA1NNN

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 07:45:51 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950221074032.2231D-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 21 Feb 1995, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

> On Mon, 20 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:
>
> > BPQ, and it contained some rather strange configurations of the Switch
> > that made it NOT a netrom node. This I see as a strange way to run the
>
> Yes, I noticed that too, however, that is what I needed to know.
> (Disable the node stuff on my user ports...)
>
> > But I will include the information about configuring without the
> > netrom node in case a reader lives where this is considered "the best way".
>
> That sounds great, thanks Karl!
>
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX
> *****
> * Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
> * Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
> * Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
> *****
>
>

Turns out Bill that newer versions of the switch have switches
built into the bpqcfg.txt file where you decide what you want, netrom,

bbs, or both. It is VERY simple. Thanks a lot for your help. The paper is coming along well I think. I am to the point where I stop before going into the REAL Ports part and test the switch with pac4.exe. The way it's going I think the paper will help BPQ users quite a bit.

-karl k5di

136. Re: [BBSSIG:608] Re: NA VS. NOAM

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 95 10:19:50 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502211019.ZM14179@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 20, 9:39pm, Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.08.120] wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:608] Re: NA VS. NOAM
> Hank,
>
> Ok well it seems that many BBS either missed that announcement or
> ignored it.
>
> On TCP/IP - well in the world of mail transfer on the internet what
> other method is used besides primarily the TCP client/server SMTP?
> Sure AOL, Prodigy and a zillion others have there own mail thing but
> most are now interfacing to the internet domain named mail system.

Certainly if you restrict yourself to tcp/ip networks, they DO
mostly use tcp/ip over ethernet or atm ... or fddi ... or ethernet ...
or token ring ... or hdlc ... or sdhc ... or bisync ... or udlc ...
or whatever. The rest of the email travels over other transport
means, like SNA or DECNET or ... etc. etc. etc.

> I was told that BBS traffic had to go to some W7?? gateway to get
> the internet with the smtp address in the subject (or was it
> first message) line. Talk about the dark ages.

Do you have a real proposal? How should we do it differently?
How would we change the existing protocols and maintain backward
compatibility? How will we coordinate the various bbs authors?
Are you willing to head the committee that does it?

> Hundreds of TCP/IP BBS's could do this today if the darn
> address could be passed in the 'to' field.

You mean bbs system do not pass the Subject correctly?
They mangle the message text?
Why do we not simply encapsulate the smtp inside the bbs envelope
and use the bbs network as transport?

I think the answer has two parts: the bbs network has lots of problems
delivering the bytes that were sent (LL forwarding and amtor come
to mind); there are few or no good gateway programs.

> The SMTP protocol was here long before any Amateur BBS's. The
> original BBS authors chose to do it there own way, partially for
> good reasons due to the unique nature of Amateur traffic. Unfortunately
> what is now in place is the way it will more than likely stay due
> to the resistance to change (as evidenced by the .na/.noam) and the
> large number of different BBS programs and the lack of a rigid
> standard.

Oh please. Most of us use rfc-822 standard fields internally
and have done so for years (ten, in my case). Most bbs codes transport
smtp messages just fine inside the bbs envelope. The problem is
the gateways, and user education.

>
> Personally I think it (the BBS's) are all in danger of becoming
> obsoleted. Actually if you ask many TCP'ers they would say that
> has already happened but then 50 years from now we will still
> have Hams using BBS's because it is a like a mode - AM, CW etc.
> and they will be typing away on there 8088 IBM PC's happily unaware
> that the world changed at all.

Yes yes ... I know ... tcp/ip is taking over the world.
Just let me know when I can actually make some USE of it, and I'll
jump right on the bandwagon!

Point me to an ftp site which has WORKING tcp/ip applications, and I'll

start using them this weekend. They MUST hook to the existing bbs network that is in place, handle CLOVER, provide callbook lookup and a viable WP database, and require VERY little intervention from the sysop.

I have tried WNOS, NOS, and JNOS.

None came close to doing what my users want, and none could be setup to do what I want.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

137. Re: [BBSSIG:609] Re: Idea for distributing...

From: Howard Goldstein <imotion@bb.iu.net>
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 13:37:27 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502211837.NAA01299@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Andrew Funk wrote:

> In addition, it would be helpful if BBS authors could add the ability of
> users to create a "request profile". This profile would be a list of
> message To, From, Subject, or perhaps even text contained within the message
> body, which the user always wants to read. Bulletins meeting this profile
> would automatically be sent to the user.

This feature is sorely needed right now, for keyboarders. In that we lack
'echos' and 'newsgroups', even a brain dead list of T0s the keyboard login
uesr does not want to see would fit the bill.

Set ``!SALE !4SALE !WANT !WANTED'' and 3/4 of the messages disappear from
listings. AA4RE supports this on a one shot basis, but it'd be nicer to
have the system remember.

Howie

--

Howard Goldstein imotion@iu.net
InfoMotion, Inc. http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx

138. List for telephone Exchange and area code ?

From: Daniel Audet <daudet@LLC.org>
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 16:28:26 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.85.9502211626.A19493-0100000@biko.llc.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi everyone , i am looking for an ftp site to get a list of all area code
and Exchange code across NA
Can any body help me
tnx

73 de Dan, ax.25net: VE2PNK@VE2BAR.#QBC.PQ.CAN.NA
 amprnet: not yet but it's coming
 internet: daudet@biko.llc.org
 fax: 418-622-5363
 tel: 418-622-3238

139. RE: [BBSSIG:615] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 16:48:33 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950221164833.1ea43@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Oh gosh, Karl, all sorts of stuff... I really don't remember... Connect to it and do an ls... 73, Ed

140. Re: [BBSSIG:609] Re: Idea for distributing...

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 20:39:41 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502220039.AA25568@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>>One approach could be a form of client-server software with a user
>>shell, like a Web browser or CompuServe Information Manager that
>>takes the streams of incoming data and gives you a fancy GUI to work
>>with. Conversely, instead of typing verbose commands, you point your
>>mouse at an icon or item in a list, click, and the software generates
>>the appropriate characters that are sent to the BBS to do their thing.
>
>This is exactly what I've been trying to promote for quite a while!
>
>>
>>Such a shell could be designed for use with the current bbs software
>>available. For maximum efficiency, a true client-server arrangement
>>could be obtained if both parts of the software were designed at the
>>same time. Perhaps some background handshaking could occur between the
>>host and users and info passed continuously with more detailed info being
>>passed on demand.
>
>There's a simple addition to the existing BBS protocol which I believe would
>accomplish what is needed.
>

FBB already does all this with TPK. You don't even have to "broadcast" the message info as the user can easily get it from just a LIST command and then compile his "requests" off-line. It gives the user ONLY the messages he wants and uses compressed forwarding to boot.

73 - Ron
velaic

141. Re: [BBSSIG:611] Re: Idea for distributing...

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 20:21:31 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502220121.AA03376@panix3.panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Correct me if I'm wrong, but TPK already does all of this in conjunction
>with its parent FBB board. I'm not pushing TPK, just saying it is
>already there.
>

I'll admit I'm not familiar with TPK, but as I understand it it is a program which works with a single "flavor" of PBBS. What I propose is an extension to the PBBS forwarding spec which will add capabilities for everyone.

>>
>> Currently BBSs offer bulletins to each other using the BID. If client
>> software could *request* bulletins by BID...
>
>TPK does this with message numbers instead of BID.

Message numbers are transient, and dependant upon the individual PBBS. BIDs are (in theory :-)) unique identifiers which are valid at all PBBSs.

And with a BID-based system mechanisms could be implemented to retrieve bulletins which may no longer remain on the local PBBS but may remain on a regional server.

73, Andy
--

_____ Tech Producer/Editor Internet: kb7uv@panix.com WCB5-TV Channel 2 News http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ New York, NY USA --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE ---	
---	--

142. Baycom or TPK for MAC

is there a version of TPK or Baycom for MAC
if so i need a site to ftp it from

143. Re: [BBSSIG:617] Re: BPQ document 9 parts circa 1991 Author KA1NNN

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 1995 20:41:18 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950221203842.4680B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 21 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

```
> Turns out Bill that newer versions of the switch have switches
> built into the bpqcfg.txt file where you decide what you want, netrom,
> bbs, or both. It is VERY simple. Thanks a lot for your help. The paper is
> coming along well I think. I am to the point where I stop before going
> into the REAL Ports part and test the switch with pac4.exe. The way it's
> going I think the paper will help BPQ users quite a bit.
```

Yes, I've done that before, but it still talked "netrom" to a tcp/ip station here and worked as expected for everyone else. I was "pulling" my hair out until I read that 9 part doc... It help me alot.

So, I'm hoping that your paper will help too. There's a difference from what a programmer documented, and what someone that has used it would document.

```

73, de Bill, N3JIX
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                               * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu             * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam        *
*****

```

144. RE: BBS/internet

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 95 06:54:25 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <69046@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Although Hank probably knows most of this I will point out a few facts of the existing AMATEUR TCP/IP network so you have some understanding of my position.

First of all the "INTERNET" has come to be a generic term which includes virtually all worldwide connected networks. This INCLUDES the amateur radio AMPR.ORG network in those cases where it is connected. Actually it includes it whether it is connected or not but if it isn't then you obviously cannot talk to it from the internet. Amateur radio (ampr.org) is a CLASS A internet network with addresses of 44.x.x.x This is further broken down to indicated countries or portions of countries. Although a CLASS A network by definition is totally connected in the case of amateur radio this would be a very hard task to accomplish. Where we can, we do make radio connections but the widely separated areas are connected by an internet gateway. This is totally transparent to the user.

There are a large number of amateur TCP/IP networks in the US and throughout the world which ARE connected to the internet (and each other). This number is growing almost daily.

So what does TCP/IP offer to the user? Well I can only speak for my area and gateway which services South Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey and Delaware. It supplies TCP/IP services to users at 1200-9600

baud. These services include SMTP, POP2/3, FTP, TELNET, NNTP, GOPHER, MOSAIC, CALLBOOK Lookup (CD ROM and INTERNET) and a BBS via PHONE or AX25/Netrom. The transport circuit will handle any TCP client/server - an existing application or one you write yourself.

So what does all this mean? Well it means that users don't have to log into a BBS to send or receive mail or news and THEY can decide without sysop intervention what they want to see. They can send or receive mail from their system to ANYWHERE accessible on the internet. The same for files, news, keyboard contacts, information lookup etc.

Of course high bandwidth real-time transfers like MOSAIC (WWW) are not very feasible on even a 9600 baud radio circuit but they are possible.

Yes the argument will be that we are in many cases using the commercial internet for connection of some of the scattered amateur TCP/IP communities. I won't get into this as this is a whole other discussion. The fact is though that I can send mail from MY home station to a ham in Moscow and it would be there in just a few minutes. The same is true for hundreds of other sites throughout the country and world. ANYONE, ANYWHERE with internet access can send mail to:

wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org

And to thousands of other amateur TCP/IP sites. This can be done at Prodigy, AOL, or any site that can send SMTP mail, or gateway to it. I can also return mail from my amateur station TO any internet site.

Of course for legal reasons non-amateur internet sites DO NOT have access, except for mail, to the AMPR.ORG circuits.

I can only speak for BBS converts to TCP/IP in my area. What I hear is why do I need a BBS? Most never go back to wade through the mail. They can do it selectively on their own system and decide themselves what they want to see. Suppose you wanted to transfer a binary file with a buddy in Australia? I don't think you could do this with amateur BBS's. It's a snap with FTP. I have had some come to me and say "why isn't everyone doing it this way". I just look at them and say I don't know - maybe they just don't understand or don't want to.

I am NOT trying to convert anyone to TCP/IP. I do think that TCP/IP has and is getting a bad rap though. Mostly by those who do not understand it or it's potential. They are afraid of it complexity. Yes it can be intimidating, but very powerful. A savvy programmer could write virtually any application using a custom TCP port. You could control your house remotely, transfer information on demand, or virtually anything that can be carried out using a two way digital network.

OK that being said I can speak for thousands of TCP'ers throughout the world that yes there is more than BBS's. If you took my TCP away and all I had was some local BBS to check into, I would sell my equipment tomorrow. So you can put blinders on and plow ahead doing it the same old way or take a look at what the rest of the world is doing. I chose the later and my world and that of hundreds of hams in my area has been expanded beyond checking into the "local BBS".

So why all this hoopla - well it started when I mentioned about the .NA vs. NOAM problem that we in the TCP/IP community have been trying to get fixed since I can remember.

If .NOAM stays a reserved domain name, and I assume it will, then this means that Actual BBS traffic could be routed on the internet using MX records. In this way an IP gateway would be identified that could accept traffic for a specific area. Something like:

WA3TSW.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM IN MX 10 wa3dsp.ampr.org

So you could send mail from ANYWHERE on the internet to this BBS using just the call@bbs name.

This should work NOW - assuming you are using .NOAM and an mx record is setup for it.

The problem is going the other way and this was my earlier question which I did not get a straightforward reply to. Why can't I send mail on the BBS network to:

w6xyx%w6xyz.ampr.org@wa3dsp.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM

This BBS is valid - the before the '@' is not BUT if you substituted ANY valid internet address why doesn't this work. If you get it to my BBS - WA3DSP - I WILL send it to ANY internet destination. So will ANY TCP/IP BBS that is properly setup. The question is if you sent this 'TO' address at a BBS in Toledo why shouldn't it go through the BBS circuit with the 'TO' field untouched until it gets to the destination BBS? Where the '@' and after field would be removed, the '%' changed to an '@' and it would be resent.

If this did work then the entire BBS system could easily take advantage of TCP/IP transport - transparently - Dual function BBS-TCP/IP systems could act as gateways between the TCP/IP and BBS worlds. A BBS in (for sake of argument) Moscow could exchange mail with one in Philadelphia. The tools are in the TCP/IP code NOW to do this.

Doug

145. HF TNCs

From: dba@sbx.bsf.alcatel.fr (Dale BARBER)
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 95 10:29:33 +0100
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: dba@laposte.bsf.alcatel.fr
Message-ID: <9502220929.AA23643@dalton.cae>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi folks,

can someone tell me what the state of the art is in HF TNCs for packet radio, working in say the 20m band.

I know that in the past 300bps was the fastest found but I've since heard that now there are 1200 and even 2400 bps HF TNCs around.

I've heard of protocols such as AMTOR and PACTOR but I don't know anything about them. Are they the best and do they do things like forward error correction and data compression?

Also if anyone has an Email address for Kantronics in the US, then that would be really useful to me.

Thanks alot.

Cheers....Dale.

146. Re: [BBSSIG:624] Baycom or TPK for MAC

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 95 09:07:35 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: daudet@LLC.org
Message-ID: <9502221507.AA11558@tomcat1.tbe.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Daniel Audet asks:

> is there a version of TPK or Baycom for MAC
> if so i need a site to ftp it from

Look for NetMAC at ftp.ucsd.edu:/hamradio/packet/tcpip/mac (I'm guessing at the exact directory.) And/or your favorite Macintosh ftp site (ftp.cdrom.com is quite good, but they've become "popular" and busy.) At ftp.ucsd.edu also check /hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming for newer version of NetMAC. There are 3 or 4 files you will need for the complete set.

Other things of interest: SoftKiss and Savant. SoftKiss is included in the NetMAC distribution (and separately) and turns a Baycom-style modem into a KISS TNC by supplanting the Mac's serial driver. Savant is a commercial packet radio terminal program (demos available) which requires a KISS TNC and is known to work with SoftKiss.

73,

--

David Kelly N4HHE, n4hhe@amsat.org, dkelly@nebula.tbe.com

The human mind ordinarily operates at only ten percent of its capacity
-- the rest is overhead for the operating system.

147. Re: [BBSSIG:626] RE: BBS/internet

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 95 10:43:49 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502221043.ZM20590@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 22, 1:18am, Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120] wrote:

<lots of text left out at random>

Got real busy at work, so will not have time to comment very often
(or to think through my comments)

This is one reason we should hold this discussion on the ham radio
network - so we get ALL the hams involved in network to contribute ...

> WA3TSW.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM IN MX 10 wa3dsp.ampr.org

I presume this is how folks do things now ... or perhaps they have
not gotten around to it yet?

> So you could send mail from ANYWHERE on the internet to this BBS
> using just the call@bbs name.
>
> This should work NOW - assuming you are using .NOAM and an
> mx record is setup for it.
>
> The problem is going the other way and this was my earlier question which
> I did not get a straightforward reply to. Why can't I send mail on the BBS
> network to:
>
> w6xyz%w6xyz.ampr.org@wa3dsp.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM

Because this is not how you address things in the bbs network.
Just as you cannot send email from the internet addressed
as wa3dsp.#epa.pa.usa.noam@w6xyz%w6xyz.ampr.org

> This BBS is valid - the before the '@' is not BUT if you substituted ANY
> valid internet address why doesn't this work. If you get it to my BBS -
> WA3DSP - I WILL send it to ANY internet destination. So will ANY
> TCP/IP BBS that is properly setup. The question is if you sent this 'TO'
> address at a BBS in Toledo why shouldn't it go through the BBS circuit
> with the 'TO' field untouched until it gets to the destination BBS? Where
> the '@' and after field would be removed, the '%' changed to an '@' and it
> would be resent.

It doesn't work because it's not how the encapsulation has been done.
The issue is ONLY an application level issue: the mailers currently
in use, and the gateways currently in use just don't happen to have
that particular interface. They have a different one.
Creating a mailer or gateway with the interface you suggest is no big
deal, in fact it would be simple. Why not create it and see if folks
prefer it to the one we have now?

> If this did work then the entire BBS system could easily take advantage of
> TCP/IP transport - transparently - Dual function BBS-TCP/IP systems could
> act as gateways between the TCP/IP and BBS worlds. A BBS in (for sake of
> argument) Moscow could exchange mail with one in Philadelphia. The tools
> are in the TCP/IP code NOW to do this.

And I could also just log into my AOL account and do it.
Can you bring this discussion back to ham radio?
There are all kinds of simple ways to do these things via the
telephone network. But that has nothing at all to do with ham radio.

I'm doing it right now ... and it's simple ... but there is no NEED for
any radios, so I'm not using any. It is my position that this discussion
has nothing at all to do with ham radio, fails to move ham radio forward,
and in fact is detrimental to ham radio.

Perhaps we should not waste bandwidth on this stuff, but get back to
discussions of how we could improve the HAM RADIO network.

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

148. Re: [BBSSIG:627] HF TNCs

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 95 10:47:07 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502221047.ZM20795@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 22, 3:34am, Dale BARBER wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:627] HF TNCs

> Hi folks,

>

> can someone tell me what the state of the art is in HF TNCs for packet radio,
> working in say the 20m band.

Sure - these are my opinions, based on 12 years playing around on HF
("post RTTY", been doing HF digital since 1953 ...)

CLOVER is fastest and most reliable, with GTOR, PACTOR, AMTOR, PACKET
slower and/or less reliable in that order.

> I know that in the past 300bps was the fastest found but I've since heard
that
> now there are 1200 and even 2400 bps HF TNCs around.

Yes, but at least in the US these can only be used on 10M and above.

> I've heard of protocols such as AMTOR and PACTOR but I don't know anything
> about them. Are they the best and do they do things like forward error
> correction and data compression?

Yes and no, it is a very long discussion. CLOVER does all of the above,
and is an adaptive protocol - i.e. it runs at 750 baud if it can, and
will back off to as slow as 32 baud if required. All in a 500 Hz bandwidth.

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

149. Re: [BBSSIG:630] Re: HF TNCs

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 13:15:50 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502221915.NAA16262@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>

> On Feb 22, 3:34am, Dale BARBER wrote:

> > Subject: [BBSSIG:627] HF TNCs

> > Hi folks,

> >

> > can someone tell me what the state of the art is in HF TNCs for packet radio,
> > working in say the 20m band.

>

There is a TAPR SIG working on HF digital technology. Johan Forrer, KC7WW,
is heading up this group. You can review the the past messages either by
requesting the files from the listserv@tapr.org . These files should be
available on the ftp site in the next week or so...have to get some programs
implemented to move them over each evening.

There have been some very interesting thoughts on better performing modems
and what it would take to accomplish it.

Cheers - Greg WDSIVD

150. Message Header Study

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 14:07:16 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199502222007.OAA24073@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All, I am still trying to find a few more BBS stations interested in
participating in the upcoming message research.

We have a nice group currently, but missing stations on the East coast.
Would like to find between 3-5 systems along the East coast.

If you are interested, please let me know.

Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD

Instr Technology / Dept of Curriculum and Instr / Univ of Texas / Austin

Work: (512) 471-5211 | Packet Radio BBS: WD5IVD @ N5LDD.#NTX.TX.USA.NA
Fax : (512) 794-5888 | InterNet: gjones@tenet.edu

151. Re: [BBSSIG:632] Message Header Study

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 19:49:41 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502222349.AA06904@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Hi All, I am still trying to find a few more BBS stations interested in
>participating in the upcoming message research.
>

>We have a nice group currently, but missing stations on the East coast.
>Would like to find between 3-5 systems along the East coast.

>
>If you are interested, please let me know.

>
>Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD
>

Well Greg I'm almost as far East as you can get (except NFDL). Only problem
is I don't get tons of traffic but will help out if necessary.

73 - Ron
velaia@velaia.pe.ca.noam

152. Re: [BBSSIG:629] RE: BBS/internet

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 95 02:27:37 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <69175@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ok I will drop out of the discussion because you are making it
a ham radio / wireline issue and I do not want to get into that.
I make little distinction here. What works, works.

You did make one comment though and the following WILL work:

wa3dsp%wa3tsw.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM@wa3dsp.ampr.org

Send this from anywhere on the amateur TCP/IP network OR
the internet and it will go to my TCP/IP BBS where it
will be forwarded to the local BBS - WA3TSW as mail for
WA3DSP - and that BBS actually forwards it back to
wa3dsp.ampr.org in a WA3DSP mailbox.

So you could enter the BBS world here at WA3DSP from anywhere
on the internet OR any other TCP/IP BBS location setup as I
have it - there are others. As I stated and you confirmed the
RETURN path will not work.

By the way I checked with the ampr.org domain authority and
I was wrong on setting up MX records for BBS addresses. Although
it could be done they refuse to issue acceptance (at least so
far) of something like .usa.noam - The comment was to "stop
playing around with toy addresses" - not my comment.

So although you COULD address mail as above with a complete
address a more shorthand method of allowing an MX record to
route a BBS address to a gateway would not be possible at this
time.

Doug

153. Re: [BBSSIG:621] Re: BPQ Tutorial

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Wed, 22 Feb 1995 21:25:33 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.95022212140.11751A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 21 Feb 1995, EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR. wrote:

> Oh gosh, Karl, all sorts of stuf... I really don't remember... Connect
to > it and do an ls... 73, Ed

Oh gosh, Karl, all sorts of stuf... I really don't remember... Connect
to > it and do an ls... 73, Ed

Oh gosh, Karl, all sorts of stuf... I really don't remember... Connect
to > it and do an ls... 73, Ed

Well Ed trying out a new version of nos in slip and the arrow keys
don't work, and I think I know why...I set it that way...hi

And ls works fine if your a unix guy. I must confess to being a DOS
lover but who cares?

73, karl

>

154. Re: [BBSSIG:629] RE: BBS/internet

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 08:05:59 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950223075338.18727B-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 22 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Feb 22, 1:18am, Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120] wrote:

>

> <lots of text left out at random>

>

> Got real busy at work, so will not have time to comment very often
> (or to think through my comments)

>

> This is one reason we should hold this discussion on the ham radio
> network - so we get ALL the hams involved in network to contribute ...

>

>

> > WA3TSW.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM IN MX 10 wa3dsp.ampr.org

More cut out...

> > If this did work then the entire BBS system could easily take advantage of
> > TCP/IP transport - transparently - Dual function BBS-TCP/IP systems could
> > act as gateways between the TCP/IP and BBS worlds. A BBS in (for sake of
> > argument) Moscow could exchange mail with one in Philadelphia. The tools
> > are in the TCP/IP code NOW to do this.

You should be interested that RW3AA IN Moscow Russia is a
forwarding partner with me, k5di.nm.usa.noam and I was exchanging mail
this morning at 5:30 AM New Mexico time. We use digipeating over the ip
system. It works rather slow to Russia but it works.

>

> And I could also just log into my AOL account and do it.

> Can you bring this discussion back to ham radio?

> There are all kinds of simple ways to do these things via the
> telephone network. But that has nothing at all to do with ham radio.

>

> I'm doing it right now ... and it's simple ... but there is no NEED for
> any radios, so I'm not using any. It is my position that this discussion
> has nothing at all to do with ham radio, fails to move ham radio forward,
> and in fact is detrimental to ham radio.

I agree! The internet seems like a wonderful and cheap way to get
Ham packet bbs stuff around the world. But as the guy who pays for the US
Army use of internet here at ARL, this cheap/free ride is about to crash!

At least the ham bbs sysop's using the telephone are paying the
current price for a common carrier of data. They are masters of their own
efforts. Guys using internet are on borrowed time.

>

> Perhaps we should not waste bandwidth on this stuff, but get back to
> discussions of how we could improve the HAM RADIO network.

>

Hank I think the bbs sig needs to discuss what's now being used where it's interesting. The internet is fun but not very interesting.

>
> --
>
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
> Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM
>
73, de karl k5di

155. Re: [BBSSIG:625] Re: BPQ document 9 parts circa 1991 Author KA1NNN

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 07:46:24 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950223074434.18727A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 21 Feb 1995, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

> On Tue, 21 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:
>
> > Turns out Bill that newer versions of the switch have switches
> > built into the bpqcfg.txt file where you decide what you want, netrom,
> > bbs, or both. It is VERY simple. Thanks a lot for your help. The paper is
> > coming along well I think. I am to the point where I stop before going
> > into the REAL Ports part and test the switch with pac4.exe. The way it's
> > going I think the paper will help BPQ users quite a bit.
>
> Yes, I've done that before, but it still talked "netrom" to a tcp/ip
> station here and worked as expected for everyone else. I was "pulling"
> my hair out until I read that 9 part doc... It help me alot.

You will be a "beta" reader of my paper Bill. I think you will loose no more hair...:-)

>
> So, I'm hoping that your paper will help too. There's a difference from
> what a programmer documented, and what someone that has used it would
> document.
>
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX
> *****
> * Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
> * Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
> * Packet : n3jix@n3jix.epa.pa.usa.noam *
> *****
>
>
73, de karl k5di

156. Re: [BBSSIG:634] RE: BBS/internet

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 95 09:48:58 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502230948.ZM19366@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 22, 9:14pm, Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120] wrote:

> By the way I checked with the ampr.org domain authority and
> I was wrong on setting up MX records for BBS addresses. Although
> it could be done they refuse to issue acceptance (at least so
> far) of something like .usa.noam - The comment was to "stop
> playing around with toy addresses" - not my comment.

My full address is w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam.ampr.org

No, it is not an alias of an IP address, any more than
hank_oredson@mentorg.com is an alias of an IP address.

What we do INSIDE .ampr.org is not of concern to the NIS.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

157. Re: [BBSSIG:636] RE: BBS/internet

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 17:27:17 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502231740.B23619-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 23 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> I agree! The internet seems like a wonderful and cheap way to get
> Ham packet bbs stuff around the world. But as the guy who pays for the US
> Army use of internet here at ARL, this cheap/free ride is about to crash!
>
> At least the ham bbs sysop's using the telephone are paying the
> current price for a common carrier of data. They are masters of their own
> efforts. Guys using internet are on borrowed time.
>

EXCUSE ME! I personally pay a commercial provider, that is connected to
another commercial provider, that is connected to a commercial backbone.
The UTTERLY FALSE idea that everyone using the Internet and packet radio
is a THIEF, stealing service is about as ridiculous a generalization as
to say that all female's that have a hair color of blond have no
intelligence.

While SOME Ham gateways may be able to benefit from direct or indirect
usage of service not requiring a fee, I take offense to the idea that we
all are freeloaders, taking that "cheap/free ride", and not "masters of
their own efforts".

SOME of us spend our OWN money (more than is spent by those doing
telephone forwarding), and provide NOT ONLY forwarding (Yes, Virginia,
there IS something else to packet besides BBS forwarding), but real-time
communications.

I know that the purists (even those USING the Internet) like to find
reasons to flame it at least once a day, the fact is SOME OF US enjoy
using the Internet ALSO.

Am I a SYSOP? Yep, have been for years. Am I a BBS author? Yep, TNOS is
mine. Are PBBSs all their is? Nope. Is the only reason for a Ham IP
gateway to pass PBBS traffic? Nope.

A PBBS is NOT an island. It is a service to the users. If the Internet
provides more services for the users, then so be it....

Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
while (memory_available) {
    eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
    if (feel_like_it)
        make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
    gates_bank_balance++;
}
```

158. Re: BBS/internet

From: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@tntech.edu>
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 16:42:40 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <01HNE8Y2NT2ED6GZEA@tntech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
>
> My full address is w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam.ampr.org

No, it is not.

\$ nslookup

```

Default Server:  LOCALHOST
Address:  127.0.0.1

> set type=any
> w0rli.or.usa.noam.ampr.org.
Server:  LOCALHOST
Address:  127.0.0.1

*** LOCALHOST can't find w0rli.or.usa.noam.ampr.org.: Non-existent domain
> or.usa.noam.ampr.org.
Server:  LOCALHOST
Address:  127.0.0.1

*** LOCALHOST can't find or.usa.noam.ampr.org.: Non-existent domain
> usa.noam.ampr.org.
Server:  LOCALHOST
Address:  127.0.0.1

*** LOCALHOST can't find usa.noam.ampr.org.: Non-existent domain
> noam.ampr.org.
Server:  LOCALHOST
Address:  127.0.0.1

*** LOCALHOST can't find noam.ampr.org.: Non-existent domain
> ampr.org.
Server:  LOCALHOST
Address:  127.0.0.1

Non-authoritative answer:
ampr.org      nameserver = UCSD.EDU
ampr.org      nameserver = TROUT.NOSC.MIL

Authoritative answers can be found from:
ampr.org      nameserver = UCSD.EDU
ampr.org      nameserver = TROUT.NOSC.MIL
UCSD.EDU      internet address = 128.54.16.1
UCSD.EDU      internet address = 132.239.1.1
UCSD.EDU      internet address = 132.239.254.201
TROUT.NOSC.MIL internet address = 128.49.16.7
> exit

> What we do INSIDE .ampr.org is not of concern to the NIS.

However it is the concern of the person responsible for the ampr.org domain.
Last I heard, anything of the form <bbs_address>.ampr.org was not allowed in
the domain.

Don't argue with me.  I didn't make the rules.  But until they are changed
let's not have any of these silly addresses.  They won't work.

Jeff, k9ja
+-+
Jeffrey Austen      | Tennessee Technological University
jral854@tnitech.edu | Box 5004
(615) 372-3485      | Cookeville Tennessee 38505   U.S.A.

```

159. Re: [BBSSIG:640] Re: BBS/internet

```

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 95 15:09:30 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502231509.ZM20077@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

```

On Feb 23, 4:52pm, Jeffrey Austen wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:640] Re: BBS/internet
> > From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
> >
> > My full address is w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam.ampr.org
>
> No, it is not.
>
> $ nslookup
> Default Server:  LOCALHOST
> Address:  127.0.0.1

```

Here we go again ... confusing a network IP address with an email address. Good heavens folks, is this REALLY all that complex?

You seem to have forgotten that '.usa.noam.ampr.org' has

not yet been connected to the REST of '.ampr.org', that there are other sources of routing information beyond nslookup, that there are other network addressing schemes beside IP, and that the world does not end where nslookup thinks it happens to end.

Is it so hard to understand that:

1. Not all hosts run ip, or are even connected in a manner such that ip connected applications can see them.
2. That there exist gateways to cross those boundaries.
3. That some gateways are smarter than others.

But I guess if you want to be ignorant and parochial you may do so ...

... Hank

> > What we do INSIDE .ampr.org is not of concern to the NIS.
>
> However it is the concern of the person responsible for the ampr.org domain.
> Last I heard, anything of the form <bbs_address>.ampr.org was not allowed in
> the domain.

Well well. Some 'authority' somewhere has decided that the majority of the ham radio network is not allowed to be within the ham radio network?

Sounds to me like the person "responsible" for .ampr.org is not doing a very good job ... excluding the majority of the hosts in that domain from having an address in that domain does NOT make a whole lot of sense.

But this discussion already happened some years ago.

"If you do not run tcp/ip you do not exist."

Ok, I do not exist.

> Don't argue with me. I didn't make the rules. But until they are changed
> let's not have any of these silly addresses. They won't work.

So how do we move forward?
With whom should I argue?
What is their HAM RADIO email address?

Oh, just as a side note, I actually DO have an ip address.

The lookup applications available via the internet seem to have a bit of a problem keeping track of it, and of course are totally unable to connect to it. Is that my problem? I did "all the right things", but for some reason when I try and USE that address for anything "nothing happens."

You might try looking up w0rli.ampr.org or spare.w0rli.ampr.org or 386.w0rli.ampr.org ... those are the addresses I was assigned.

Any "reasonable" address lookup application should have found those, but of course I was not allowed to have a reasonable address which included some location hints.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

160. Re: [BBSSIG:641] Re: BBS/internet

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Thu, 23 Feb 1995 18:33:25 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502231805.023619-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 23 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:


```

while (memory_available) {
    eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
    if (feel_like_it)
        make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
    gates_bank_balance++;
}

```

161. Re: [BBSSIG:641] Re: BBS/internet

From: "Ralph R. Swick" <swick@x.org>
 Date: Fri, 24 Feb 1995 10:10:32 EST
 To: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM
 Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <9502241510.AA18262@huey.x.org>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson), Thu, 23 Feb 1995 17:14:30 -0600

> > My full address is w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam.ampr.org

...

You seem to have forgotten that '.usa.noam.ampr.org' has not yet been connected to the REST of '.ampr.org', that there are other sources of routing information beyond nslookup

...

2. That there exist gateways to cross those boundaries.

Hank, I've been following this discussion and I agreed with your point of view up to here. But now I'm confused. I thought I was reasonably familiar with how mail addresses were supposed to be resolved on the Internet. Not having an MX record somewhere means that every system that wants to use the kind of address you gave has to know where the gateway is, and has to (for example) add magic to its sendmail.cf, right?

Perhaps you'd enlighten me by describing exactly how routing for your full address above currently works (from, say, the SMTP-based machine where I'm originating this message) and how you think it ought to work in an ideal world?

Thanks for your patience with this 18-year NetVeteran who knows he still has lots to learn!

de Ralph, kd1sm	
kd1sm@x.org	Internet
kd1sm@iii.net	Internet
kd1sm@kd1sm.ampr.org	AMPRnet
kd1sm@klugm.#ema.ma.usa	AX.25

162. Re: BBS/internet

From: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@tntech.edu>
 Date: Fri, 24 Feb 1995 11:20:27 -0600 (CST)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <01HNFBYMVI8ID8Y0IH@tntech.edu>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

> But now I'm confused. I thought I was
 > reasonably familiar with how mail addresses were supposed to be
 > resolved on the Internet. Not having an MX record somewhere means
 > that every system that wants to use the kind of address you gave
 > has to know where the gateway is, and has to (for example) add
 > magic to its sendmail.cf, right?

Arrrgggghh! I knew this would happen.

The Amateur Radio Packet BBS network is NOT PART OF THE INTERNET.

The Amateur Radio Packet BBS network addresses are NOT in a form that is understood by Internet hosts.

There exist gateways between the two networks, so it is possible to send messages between them. As the addresses are in a different format you will need to consult the gateway documentation to determine how to address your messages. Due to regulatory restrictions there may be rules regarding message content, requirements for manual message screening, etc. These rules may differ from one gateway to the next.

163. Re: BBS/internet

From: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@nttech.edu>
Date: Fri, 24 Feb 1995 11:08:03 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <01HNFA2Q6ZWYD8Y0IH@nttech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Here we go again ... confusing a network IP address with an email
> address. Good heavens folks, is this REALLY all that complex?

Ummmm...let's not confuse a hostname with an IP address.

> You seem to have forgotten that '.usa.noam.ampr.org' has
> not yet been connected to the REST of '.ampr.org', that there
> are other sources of routing information beyond nslookup, that
> there are other network addressing schemes beside IP, and that
> the world does not end where nslookup thinks it happens to end.

I assume that in the above you are referring to the Internet as defined by the IAB and the appropriate mandatory standard RFCs. In that context your statement doesn't make sense as the domain '.usa.noam.ampr.org' does not exist. Please explain what other method of registering hostnames exist; providing references would be appropriate.

> Is it so hard to understand that:

>

> 1. Not all hosts run ip, or are even connected in a manner
> such that ip connected applications can see them.

>

> 2. That there exist gateways to cross those boundaries.

>

> 3. That some gateways are smarter than others.

>

> But I guess if you want to be ignorant and parochial you may do so ...

I think that I understand these points quite well.

> Sounds to me like the person "responsible" for .ampr.org is not doing
> a very good job ... excluding the majority of the hosts in that domain
> from having an address in that domain does NOT make a whole lot of sense.

This is an arguable point ... but that argument should be a separate topic. (Personally, I'm in favor of developing a system to assign true Internet addresses to BBS systems, even if they aren't connected or reachable in real time from the Internet. We'd have to solve some problems first but I think it would be worth it.)

> The lookup applications available via the internet seem to have a bit
> of a problem keeping track of it, and of course are totally unable to
> connect to it. Is that my problem? I did "all the right things", but
> for some reason when I try and USE that address for anything "nothing
> happens."

>

> You might try looking up w0rli.ampr.org or spare.w0rli.ampr.org
> or 386.w0rli.ampr.org ... those are the addresses I was assigned.

>

> Any "reasonable" address lookup application should have found those,
> but of course I was not allowed to have a reasonable address which
> included some location hints.

Your address coordinator is responsible for making the appropriate entries. Unfortunately, many don't get made and others are entered incorrectly. A "reasonable" address does not need location hints. Don't confuse an identifier with a locator (consider the problems of mobile operation); this has been discussed quite a bit in the IPng working group.

SUMMARY:

* (Fact) The Internet is defined by the IAB and has a set of mandatory host requirements.

* (Fact) The Amateur Radio Packet BBS network does not follow the Internet requirements, nor should it necessarily do so. It is a separate network, not part of the Internet.

* (Fact) 'w0rli.or.usa.noam.ampr.org' is NOT an Internet address. Both the DNS and the 'ampr.org' domain coordinator say so.

- * (Fact -- probably) 'w0rli.or.usa.noam.ampr.org' is probably not a valid Amateur Radio Packet BBS address. From what I've seen of the standards (such as they are -- TAPR is working on this) the '.ampr.org' part doesn't belong. [By the way, Hank, thank you for working on a related project: developing the BBS communications protocol standards!]
- * (Opinion) My opinion is that it would be a mistake to make the Amateur Radio Packet BBS addresses look like Internet addresses by adding the '.ampr.org' -- which could certainly be done because the Amateur Radio Packet BBS network is NOT the Internet and Amateur Radio operators manage and control their own network -- because it would cause confusion. If we're going to do it, though, let's have a public debate and then make a decision.
- * (Opinion) I am in favor of integrating the Amateur Radio Packet BBS addresses with the Internet addresses provided that we develop a plan to make it work, which means solving the routing problem and gateway problem. As the Internet probably will not change to accomodate Amateur Radio, there will need to be some changes in the Amateur Radio Packet BBS network to accomplish this.

Jeff, k9ja

+--+

Jeffrey Austen		Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@tntech.edu		Box 5004
(615) 372-3485		Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

164. Re: [BBSSIG:645] Re: BBS/internet

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
 Date: Fri, 24 Feb 1995 13:05:11 -0700 (MST)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950224124556.14534C-100000@kazak>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

I am going to delete almost all of this stuff.

On Fri, 24 Feb 1995, Jeffrey Austen wrote:

```
> > Here we go again ... confusing a network IP address with an email
> > address. Good heavens folks, is this REALLY all that complex?
>
>
> * (Opinion) I am in favor of integrating the Amateur Radio Packet BBS
> addresses with the Internet addresses provided that we develop a plan to
> make it work, which means solving the routing problem and gateway problem.
> As the Internet probably will not change to accomodate Amateur Radio,
> there will need to be some changes in the Amateur Radio Packet BBS network
> to accomplish this.
>
> Jeff, k9ja
> +--+
```

Jeffrey Austen		Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@tntech.edu		Box 5004
(615) 372-3485		Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

Jeff I am planning on pushing a change to the current Packet BBS address that will LOOK like an Internet address but sure will not be one! Jeff you sound like an expert on the Internet. I imagine you have loaded many Cisco Routers. You should look at the stuff your loading. What that stuff does is get the correct tranlation of a phrase of letters to the IP number. That number is what is used to get the packet from sender to receiver.

You are incorrect when you say the ham IP system is a seperate network from the Internet. There are hundreds if not thousands of hams that have computers connected to the internet and if you do a ping to callsign.ampr.org you will get a fast round trip! So it is correct to say that the Ham IP numbers are a sub-set of all the Internet IP numbers. I can, and do bring my ham IP number on the internet (44.30.2.5) and I have never had a single problem!

So please do more checking of your "facts"...:-)

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
```

```

*
*   The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM       Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet
*   Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C           Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12
*
*
*       Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory
*
*****

```

165. RE: [BBSSIG:646] Re: BBS/internet

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
 Date: Fri, 24 Feb 1995 17:06:17 -0500 (EST)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <950224170617.218c@ids.net>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Aaaaarrgh!!!!!! Let it go, guys... This whole thread is beyond tedious!

73, Ed Sadowski, K1BYV, sysop USARMARS Region One BBS AT1TFC

166. Re: [BBSSIG:647] Re: BBS/internet

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
 Date: Fri, 24 Feb 95 15:03:58 PST
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <9502241503.ZM23423@hanko>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 24, 4:20pm, EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR. wrote:
 > Subject: [BBSSIG:647] Re: BBS/internet
 > Aaaaarrgh!!!!!! Let it go, guys... This whole thread is beyond tedious!
 >
 > 73, Ed Sadowski, K1BYV, sysop USARMARS Region One BBS AT1TFC
 >-- End of excerpt from EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR.

Yes, I guess we could stop discussing these issues, and just allow things to continue to not work like they are not working.

If you are not interested in these addressing issues, perhaps you can just not read the messages which discuss them.

(note all the negativity in my response) <giggle>

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
 Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
 Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

167. Re: [BBSSIG:646] Re: BBS/internet

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
 Date: Fri, 24 Feb 1995 18:27:58 +0000
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502241801.G6180-0100000@lantz.com>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 24 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> You are incorrect when you say the ham IP system is a seperate
 > network from the Internet. There are hundreds if not thousands of hams
 > that have computers connected to the internet and if you do a ping to
 > callsign.ampr.org you will get a fast round trip! So it is correct to say
 > that the Ham IP numbers are a sub-set of all the Internet IP numbers. I
 > can, and do bring my ham IP number on the internet (44.30.2.5) and I have
 > never had a single problem!
 >
 > So please do more checking of your "facts"...:-)

His facts were correct. He CAREFULLY said 'Amateur Packet Radio BBS' addresses and networks, which ARE separate and different "standards" from the Internet.

That was what I took to being his point. Ham BBS is not necessarily HAM IP or Internet IP.

is already implemented on hundreds of NOS/BBS systems (including mine) NOW but because of BBS limitations it does not work in a straightforward manner.

Making the BBS's have AMPR.ORG domain names is NOT the answer. It also would be wrong if the BBS could not do TCP/IP. If TCP/IP mail capability were built into the BBS programs as in JNOS then THAT bbs would be issued an IP address and would use a domain name in the x.ampr.org domain. 'x' by convention is the HAM CALL but this is just a suggestion.

In lieu of the BBS being able to actually do SMTP<>BBS mail as in JNOS, the mail destined for the TCP/IP community must go to a gateway able to handle it.

The JNOS systems throughout the country (and world) can receive SMTP mail from there connection capability and resend it as standard BBS mail to any reachable BBS. As I stated this works NOW, but it requires the originator to have some knowledge of where to send the mail - I.E. what amateur IP gateway to use.

So if I were in mongolia on the internet (could be HAM!!) and wanted to send mail to W3XYZ@#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM it would be meaningless, ADD^ WA3TSW.

BUT - W3XYZ%WA3TSW.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM@wa3dsp.ampr.org would be perfectly legal. However how would anyone know to send traffic destined for this BBS to wa3dsp.ampr.org as a best path. An MX record defining this would allow you to just send an address of W3XYZ@WA3TSW.#EPA.PA.USA.NOAM

But who would be the domain authority for USA.NOAM - and would this be allowable since USA.NOAM is really not a TCP/IP address.

This is a moot point however since the real problem is the return mail address FROM the BBS system. Having a 6 character limit it is obviously not capable.

So that sums it up. What has this thread taught me? Well for one that the BBS community has some bad misperceptions of the AMATEUR (and other) TCP/IP community.

If you have specific TCP/IP questions I encourage you to look into the nos-bbs group at hydra.carleton.CA or the tcpgroup@ucsd.edu. Brian Kantor - brian@ucsd.edu is the domain administrator for AMPR.ORG and ucsd.edu is the domain authority. TCP/IP coordinators are assigned by Brian for states or portions thereof throughout the country. Assignments for other countries are also made by Brian.

I see a mistake I made a few lines up that I am sure someone will jump on "USA.NOAM is really not a TCP/IP address". To be more specific what I really meant is whatever X.USA.NOAM address is MX translated would not really be an IP address but rather a name translation to a machine that could handle the SMTP to BBS mail.

Doug

170. Re: [BBSSIG:651] Re: BBS/internet

From: Klarsen <k5di@kazak.NMSU.Edu>
Date: Sat, 25 Feb 1995 06:18:19 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950225060627.28611A-100000@kazak>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have a few words that might help this question a bit. First, the packet bbs h-address was never invisioned as being also a internet address, BUT it could be such with a lot of trouble.

Today I as k5di.cruces.nm.usa.noam my f6fbb bbs is being forwarded to over the Internet by F6CNB in TX and RW5AA in Moscow, Russia. These forwards are accomplished via ham radio Gateways. The Gateway I connect to is NMSUGW w5gb-9. We all DIGIPEAT on the IP system and it works well. Those of you that work with NOS understand what the IP digipeat function does.

In summation, the Internet is being used today to forward traffic

all over the world. The packet BBS address looks like an internet address but it is not.

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

171. RE: [BBSSIG:651] Re: BBS/internet

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>
Date: Sat, 25 Feb 1995 8:52:36 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950225085237.3531@ids.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Doug...

Thanks for the great response to my emotional outburst! I'm not opposed to the quest for a better way of doing things. It just seemed to me that some folks had exhumed something that had been laid to rest before or were beating a dead horse - hi! I think your response may have put the thread back on track. I do not pretend to be a digital wig - I'm just a humble BBS sysop, albeit on Army MARS. As a result, I don't experience the same problems found in the amateur community. I do use e-mail to help me move traffic, but it is a manual transfer from my BBS to my commo program for a point-to-point send to another BBS sysop and vice versa. Traffic flow is from area to region to state and vice versa. At the state level, traffic must be picked up manually and then sent OTA in a net or delivered by other means (especially third party). We neither have the means nor the personnel to set up a system such as exists in the amateur community. But we do pay attention to it! Keep up the good work.

73, Ed, K1BYV

172. JNOS<->FBB etc.

From: "John W. (Bill) Hays, W00MV" <billh@INS.INFONET.NET>
Date: Sat, 25 Feb 1995 11:09:00 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098C828.A82802CB.45@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I rcvd thisd request for help, I run MacNET and am unable to answer the question. Can someone pse help?

" Bill,

How do yo set up JNOS so that you do NOT have to send a carriage return to access the system (IE: K9JL versus IPGATE) Tony, V31L0 is having a bit of a problem getting messages sent to his JNOS BBS. Also, how do you flag someones call as a bbs???

73

Larry

"

In our case locally K9JL acts as a gateway and he runs TNOS under LINUX I relieve. I run my mail through smtp on the Mac to K9JL and it magically gets to where it needs to go, without Jeff's intervention. WR9B sends mail via ax25 to me via K9JL's NOS BBS. Jeff is not available to answer question so trying to get a quick response here Hi
TNX.
Bill

173. Re: [BBSSIG:652] Re: BBS/internet

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson)
Date: Sat, 25 Feb 1995 17:20:04 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502252220.AA12181@chaos.NIS.chaos>
Rendered body type: text/plain

My mailer said Klarsen said this:

>

> Today I as k5di.cruces.nm.usa.noam my f6fbb bbs is being
> forwarded to over the Internet by F6CNB in TX and RW5AA in Moscow,
> Russia. These forwards are accomplished via ham radio Gateways. The

> Gateway I connect to is NMSUGW w5gb-9. We all DIGIPEAT on the IP system
> and it works well. Those of you that work with NOS understand what the IP
> digipeat function does.

That's only AX.25 encapsulation on IP frames. You're just using the Internet as a transport, not necessarily connecting *to it* in the sense that you can connect to anybody on the Internet. By encapsulating through a network you can pass protocols that are not compatible with other hosts on the Internet. You could just have easily connect some Novell Netware systems together via tunneling across an IP network on the Internet, ham radio, landline modems, etc..., but it doesn't mean that it would be part of the actual IP protocol network, all you're doing is just hitching a ride on it.

To solve some of this discussion, does anybody have the original proposal for starting AMPRNET or the ampr.org domain? I used to have a text file here that talked about it and showed how the entire AMPRNET network is subnetted (AMPRNET is the name for the network of IP addresses starting with 44). I don't remember exactly what it said, but I don't remember seeing anything about non-IP based systems in it. Probably somebody along the line thought "AMateur Packet Radio NETwork (AMPRNET), I'm running a packet system over amateur radio, I must be part of the network", even though the definition might have clearly stated it being IP based systems.

--

Ron Atkinson N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@wsu.n8fow.ampr.org
Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
aa011@detroit.freenet.org

174. Re: [BBSSIG:646] Re: BBS/internet

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Sun, 26 Feb 1995 10:49:14 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950226104802.4588B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 24 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

>

> I am going to delete almost all of this stuff.

Agreed, I allready did. It's not productive to argue about this topic.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                      * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu    * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *
*****
```

175. New Mailing List...

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Sun, 26 Feb 1995 18:16:57 +0000
To: Ham Gateways list <gateways@mpg.phys.hawaii.edu>
Cc: CONVERSE SYSOP Mailing List <conv-sysops@lantz.com>,
TAPR BBSSIG Mailing List <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502261858.s6180-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have been asked to start a new mailing list at lantz.com for use by sysops involved in forwarding PBBS traffic over the Internet. This mailing list is for the BBS forwarding sysops, who in many cases are NOT the gateway sysops.

To join the fwd-sysops mailing list, send an email message to:

listserv@lantz.com

and in the body of the message, place:

subscribe email-address fwd-sysops

where 'email-address' (which is optional) is the COMPLETE Internet address that you wish the subscription delivered to. If the delivery is to be to the address you are sending from, you can omit the 'email-address'.

If the sysop is not directly addressable through the Internet, but they ARE available through a gateway, use the form of:

user%bbs.address@gateway.internet.address

There is also a digest version available, and to subscribe to it, use the above instructions, but in place of 'fwd-sysops' use 'fwd-sysops-digest'.

NOTE: any PBBS addresses, or ampr.org addresses that do not have proper MX records for mailing will be removed.

Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

176. Re: [BBSSIG:657] New Mailing List...

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Sun, 26 Feb 1995 22:03:08 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502270403.WAA02943@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Brain - why duplicate efforts when we can set up and maintain that list on TAPR.ORG with other related groups like BBSSIG ?

Greg, WD5IVD

According to Brian A. Lantz:

```
>
> I have been asked to start a new mailing list at lantz.com for use by
> sysops involved in forwarding PBBS traffic over the Internet. This
> mailing list is for the BBS forwarding sysops, who in many cases are NOT
> the gateway sysops.
>
```

177. Re: [BBSSIG:658] Re: New Mailing List...

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Sun, 26 Feb 1995 23:52:26 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502262309.y6180-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 26 Feb 1995, Greg Jones wrote:

```
> Brain - why duplicate efforts when we can set up and maintain that list on
> TAPR.ORG with other related groups like BBSSIG ?
>
> Greg, WD5IVD
>
> According to Brian A. Lantz:
> >
> > I have been asked to start a new mailing list at lantz.com for use by
> > sysops involved in forwarding PBBS traffic over the Internet. This
> > mailing list is for the BBS forwarding sysops, who in many cases are NOT
> > the gateway sysops.
```

Well, first, I was asked to do it. Second, I have been running lists here for years, several of which are similar to the fwd-sysops list, so I gave no thought as to whether or not other sites were needed.

Whose efforts were being duplicated?

Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

178. Mail Archives available on ftp.tapr.org

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 00:37:43 -0600 (CST)
To: netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing),
aprssig@tapr.org, hfsig@tapr.org (HF SIG mailing)
Message-ID: <199502270637.AAA15814@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Mail Archives for the various mail groups are now available on both
listserv@tapr.org and via ftp.tapr.org

The mail archives on the listserv is updated daily.
The mail archives in the ftp area is updated weekly.

179. Re: [BBSSIG:659] Re: New Mailing List...

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 08:30:04 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502271230.AA04394@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>On Sun, 26 Feb 1995, Greg Jones wrote:
>
>> Brain - why duplicate efforts when we can set up and maintain that list on
>> TAPR.ORG with other related groups like BBSSIG ?
>>
>> Greg, WD5IVD
>>
>> According to Brian A. Lantz:
>> >
>> > I have been asked to start a new mailing list at lantz.com for use by
>> > sysops involved in forwarding PBBS traffic over the Internet. This
>> > mailing list is for the BBS forwarding sysops, who in many cases are NOT
>> > the gateway sysops.
>

Well guys I (am a number of other BBS Sysops) subscribe to everything we can
in order to learn as much about our particular interests in this hobby. As
such there is NETSIG, BBSSIG, F6FBB-SIG, and now the BBS-INTERNET
SIG...oh almost forgot
about NOS-BBS list too.
Is there duplication, no doubt, but then I sometimes hear the comment
"we dont want to talk about that...[subject]..on this list", so "to each
his own".

Sure, I would prefer less lists although its no big deal to me as a
subscriber since
its all automatic from this end. However, I expect that like a lot of of
group things,
when they get splintered too much they can fall apart.

On the particular "subject" of BBS traffic over Internet, it was talked
about on a
number of lists but unfortunately some people have such strong veiws (either
way)
that discussion did not last long.
Pushing new technology and the thinking that goes with it is great, its what we
need. But name-calling is not.
We all have the right to make our own decisions on our own involvement in
the hobby and its technology.
The guy using a dumb-terminal to a 1200b tnc should not be ridiculed any
more than
the person who has a Pentium running Linux/JNOS with a dedicated Internet
connection,
that provides an Amateur link. As long as both are involved in Amateur
Packet Radio,
which is what these lists were all about..or so I thought.

73 - Ron
velaic@velaic.pe.can.noam

180. Re: [BBSSIG:661] Re: New Mailing List...

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 06:31:51 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502270625.A15960-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 27 Feb 1995, Ron VE1AIC wrote:

> > On Sun, 26 Feb 1995, Greg Jones wrote:
> >
> > Brain - why duplicate efforts when we can set up and maintain that list on
> > TAPR.ORG with other related groups like BBSSIG ?
> >
> > Greg, WD5IVD
> >
> > According to Brian A. Lantz:
> > >
> > > I have been asked to start a new mailing list at lantz.com for use by
> > > sysops involved in forwarding PBBS traffic over the Internet. This
> > > mailing list is for the BBS forwarding sysops, who in many cases are NOT
> > > the gateway sysops.
> >
> >
> > Well guys I (am a number of other BBS Sysops) subscribe to everything we can
> > in order to learn as much about our particular interests in this hobby. As
> > such there is NETSIG, BBSSIG, F6FBB-SIG, and now the BBS-INTERNET
> > SIG....oh almost forgot
> > about NOS-BBS list too.
> > Is there duplication, no doubt, but then I sometimes hear the comment
> > "we dont want to talk about that...[subject]..on this list", so "to each
> > his own".

I guess it would depend on the purpose of the group. There WAS an FBB forward list, but I unsubscribed to it because I wasn't interested. It was for the purpose of actually sending export files for others to import. If the new group is informational, instead of a "forwarding medium" I guess the group would not be a duplication. However, how much more can be discussed than already has on such a narrow subject. Seems like BBSSIG would cover it pretty well.

Gary

181. [BBSSIG:662] Re: New Mail

From: n7mrp@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 23:29:01 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950227163905152@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
-> To: bbssig@tapr.org
-> Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 09:58:05 -0600
-> Subject: [BBSSIG:662] Re: New Mailing List...
->
->
->
-> On Mon, 27 Feb 1995, Ron VE1AIC wrote:
->
-> > On Sun, 26 Feb 1995, Greg Jones wrote:
-> > >
-> > > Brain - why duplicate efforts when we can set up and maintain tha
-> > > TAPR.ORG with other related groups like BBSSIG ?
-> > >
-> > > Greg, WD5IVD
-> > >
-> > > According to Brian A. Lantz:
-> > > >
-> > > > I have been asked to start a new mailing list at lantz.com for
-> > > > sysops involved in forwarding PBBS traffic over the Internet.
-> > > > mailing list is for the BBS forwarding sysops, who in many cas
-> > >
-> > > > the gateway sysops.
-> > >
-> >
-> > Well guys I (am a number of other BBS Sysops) subscribe to everythi
-> > in order to learn as much about our particular interests in this ho
-> > such there is NETSIG, BBSSIG, F6FBB-SIG, and now the BBS-INTERNET
-> > SIG....oh almost forgot

-> > about NOS-BBS list too.
-> > Is there duplication, no doubt, but then I sometimes hear the comme
-> > "we dont want to talk about that...[subject]..on this list", so "t
-> > his own".
->
-> I guess it would depend on the purpose of the group. There WAS an FB
-> forward list, but I unsubscribed to it because I wasn't interested.
-> was for the purpose of actually sending export files for others to
-> import. If the new group is informational, instead of a "forwarding
-> medium" I guess the group would not be a duplication. However, how m
-> more can be discussed than already has on such a narrow subject. See
-> like BBSSIG would cover it pretty well.
->
-> Gary

Forward list was disbanded quite some time ago.

The F6FBB-LIST for discussion of F6FBB software and utilities is still
in existance. It has changed sites though.

It is:

F6FBB-LIST@PHX-AZ.COM
SUBSCRIBE <-----Message Subject.

Jean-Paul receives an echo of the list.

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-489-7384
P.O. Box 45378	Fax : +1-602-956-2566
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-5378	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

182. Re: [BBSSIG:661] Re: New Mailing List...

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson)
Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 20:54:13 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502280154.AA18683@chaos.NIS.chaos>
Rendered body type: text/plain

My mailer said Ron VE1AIC said this:

>
> >On Sun, 26 Feb 1995, Greg Jones wrote:
> >
> >> Brain - why duplicate efforts when we can set up and maintain that list on
> >> TAPR.ORG with other related groups like BBSSIG ?
> >>
> >> According to Brian A. Lantz:
> >> >
> >> > I have been asked to start a new mailing list at lantz.com for use by
> >> > sysops involved in forwarding PBBS traffic over the Internet. This
> >> > mailing list is for the BBS forwarding sysops, who in many cases are NOT
> >> > the gateway sysops.
> >
>
> Well guys I (am a number of other BBS Sysops) subscribe to everything we can
> in order to learn as much about our particular interests in this hobby. As
> such there is NETSIG, BBSSIG, F6FBB-SIG, and now the BBS-INTERNET
> SIG...oh almost forgot
> about NOS-BBS list too.
> Is there duplication, no doubt, but then I sometimes hear the comment
> "we dont want to talk about that...[subject]..on this list", so "to each
> his own".

Besides, everytime somebody on this group (BBSSIG) even mentions talking
about "BBS forwarding over the Internet", the flames start up from people
that insist that all forwarding should be done over packet entirely. That

alone is reason enough for it to have it's own dedicated group. People are too afraid to even mention it anymore on here. Many people put ham radio first and computer experimenter second, many people are computer experimenters first and ham radio operators second. Many that do BBS forwarding over the Internet tend to fall into the second group and the conflicts that keep occurring between the two on this discussion (and with regular packet <> Internet gateways) can be almost as bad as the code vs no-code arguments. I'd rather see one list too, but it was already tried on here with no success. If people would get along and stop flaming the use of the Internet on here for any kind of packet connectivity, then maybe we can use this group.

--

Ron Atkinson N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@wsu.n8fow.ampr.org
Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
aa011@detroit.freenet.org

183. Re: [BBSSIG:645] Re: BBS/internet

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 22:30:05 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502280430.WAA18108@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

There certainly is a wide range of opinions of using Internet to forward. It is going to be interesting to see how many wireline links show up in the message analysis Greg is planning. I suspect that there is much more Internet forwarding than most people expect.

Today it seems that if it's possible, someone will try to do.
This isn't always bad.

The State of Iowa is installing a fiber optic network and making channels available to hams through the emergency mgmt department. This isn't Internet, but it certainly isn't 1200 baud AFSK on 2 meters.

Deciding to use this path for forwarding is hardly a moral dilemma. Packet nodes have been falling down faster than they're going up here in the corn fields. In many cases, the choice is use the network or wait for conditions to go up/down every few days.

Perhaps this discussion should move to NETSIG? Any interesting question would be "Has network capacity increased to meet or exceed requirements?"

73 Barry wa0rjt

184. Re: [BBSSIG:665] Re: BBS/internet

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 05:51:20 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <70928@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Well I suspect in a real emergency the ham circuits would be the ones that would go out first. Not many are emergency power backed up and most are vulnerable in other ways. On the other hand most Cell sites are somewhat hardened.

So in an emergency use your cell-phone - now the problem will be overloaded circuits - so what are we back to - good old HF point-to-point radio..

Anyhow I would put my bets on an internet circuit over a ham circuit in an emergency. The favor is only slightly more however as I really believe both would be out.

I guess this IS what it all boils down to - emergency communications isn't that our big claim to fame?

So if you tell some non-ham proudly that a message was sent solely by amateur radio across the country and it took 3 days they would probably look you like you were crazy, especially since in any real emergency that circuit would not be there.

It is no technical feat to put in a network - it is though a

feat of personalities, politics and patience. Since it is "only a hobby" how can you guarantee that a circuit is reliable. The ham at the other end could just decide he doesn't want to play anymore. This has happened more than once around here. This is the guy who is going to do so many great things. 56K circuits to everywhere and then all of the sudden they disappear.

Doug

185. AA4RE mailing list? (was re: forward list)

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.mpcs.com>
Date: Mon, 27 Feb 1995 22:41:58 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502280341.WAA00320@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

One of my users runs AA4RE bbs. Anyone know the status of the mailing list?
A subscribe request was sent about 2 weeks ago but no reply/bounce/etc.

Howie
N2WX

186. Re: [BBSSIG:667] AA4RE mailing list?

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 09:41:51 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502281741.JAA11279@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>One of my users runs AA4RE bbs. Anyone know the status of the mailing list?
>A subscribe request was sent about 2 weeks ago but no reply/bounce/etc.

>
>Howie
>N2WX
>
>

I had the same experience 7 or 8 months ago when I subscribed, I wrote a note to Chris at spell@seq.uncwil.edu and he put me on the list.

73 Mike

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

187. Re: [BBSSIG:664] Re: New Mailing List...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 10:47:48 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502281047.ZM665@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 27, 8:01pm, Ron Atkinson wrote:

>
> Besides, everytime somebody on this group (BBSSIG) even mentions talking
> about "BBS forwarding over the Internet", the flames start up from people
> that insist that all forwarding should be done over packet entirely. That
> alone is reason enough for it to have it's own dedicated group. People
> are too afraid to even mention it anymore on here. Many people put
> ham radio first and computer experimenter second, many people are
> computer experimenters first and ham radio operators second. Many that
> do BBS forwarding over the Internet tend to fall into the second group
> and the conflicts that keep occurring between the two on this discussion
> (and with regular packet <> Internet gateways) can be almost as bad as
> the code vs no-code arguments. I'd rather see one list too, but it was
> already tried on here with no success. If people would get along and stop
> flaming the use of the Internet on here for any kind of packet connectivity,
> then maybe we can use this group.

Just a short comment on the above.

*** Flame thrower set to 10

In a similar style: If only the idiots who are destroying ham radio by using commercial networks to replace the ham RADIO networks would just get along and agree to STOP their destructive behavior,

then we would no longer have these discussions, and could instead get on with building a HAM RADIO NETWORK.

Any idiot can hook a computer to a modem, buy time on their local internet provider, and push data back and forth. This is no more difficult than setting up a Fido, RBBS, or Wildcat BBS system for dial-in use, and MOVES HAM RADIO FORWARD just as well. i.e. it helps to prove to others (e.g. the FCC and the commercial interests) that there is no REASON to have ham radio frequencies available for hams to use BECAUSE THEY CAN DO IT BETTER OVER THE TELEPHONE!

The folks that want to do this stuff SHOULD have their own newsgroup or list server, so they can get out of the way of the REAL HAMS who are actually building HAM RADIO networks.

I propose naming this new list wimp-ops so that everyone who might subscribe will be well notified that these folks are NOT REAL HAMS, but wimps-ops unable to accomplish what they wish USING HAM RADIO.

Don't give me the bogus argument that "these commercial links are for use by hams" ... so is AT&T, CIS, MCI, OAL, et al. ANY ham can use those network IN PLACE OF THEIR RADIO.

Just to make it real plain, if the above did not: In my viewpoint the use of commercial networks INSTEAD of ham radio networks to construct a so called ham radio network is a total cop-out. The folks doing this, in my view, are wimps: unable to make it in ham radio, they go play on the commercial networks. Please take these discussions SOMEWHERE ELSE and leave us (those of us who are trying to build a HAM RADIO NETWORK) alone so we can get on with it.

*** Flame thrower off.

If you feel you must respond, do so via the HAM RADIO NETWORK. I will answer all such responses, and ignore all responses that arrive via this COMMERCIAL network.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

188. Re: [BBSSIG:665] Re: BBS/internet

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 10:54:33 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502281054.ZM687@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 27, 10:38pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Perhaps this discussion should move to NETSIG? Any interesting
> question would be "Has network capacity increased to meet or exceed
> requirements?"

Of course it has NOT, Barry.

The wimp-ops took the load off the network by bypassing it over the telephone, so there has been no NEED to grow the network. In many areas of the west, the ham radio network is rapidly deteriorating: it is SO much simpler to plug a modem into the telephone line compared to going up on those mountains to install 9600 baud modems or repair antennas.

So the modems get connected, "Gee it works BETTER than the nodes" and the nodes fall into disuse and disrepair, then go away.

We are seeing this NOW here in the west. It will be coming to a network near you very soon. Once it happens, as it is happening here, the users will no longer need radios and tncs: that little LL modem is "So Cheap and So Fast and So Easy" ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

189. Re: [BBSSIG:669] Re: New Mailing List...

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 15:36:52 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502281526.D24457-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

[nothing but name-calling, holier-than-thou, babblings]

A PERFECT example of why people have asked me for a list to help with communications about a certain aspect of their HOBBY.

Some of our number find their only pleasure in flaming others interests, and trying to "prove" how much better their ideas and interests are than the next person's. All they "prove" is their own mean-spirited nature.

I won't waste my time defending others rights to enjoy Amateur Radio the way they wish. This is a given to all but a narrow-minded few. What really AMAZES me, is that these have the GALL to flame people for using the Internet to communicate Ham radio issues, using an Internet Ham radio mailingf list. Is this the height of deceit, or what? Hank, buddy, stay away from mirrors!

I sent my announcement of this mailing list, not realizing that it would cause such a commotion. I apoligize to those with an obviously HIGHER purpose in life; i.e., belittling others.

I have learned a valuable lesson: NEVER to send out any other courtesy messages to a TAPR-sponsored mailing list. They do not seem to be welcome.

I DAILY stand amazed at the level of self-destructive behavior that the Ham community spends at attacking their own. Wonder why our numbers are growing....

Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }

190. Re: [BBSSIG:657] New Mailing List...

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 13:35:54 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950228132859.14388A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Just from curiosity Brain, who was it that asked you to start a internet-forward data server? I am one of the first to do this using the IP digipeat method with Remi F6CNB, which we still do on a daily basis. I was also thinking, since I also am forwarding with Russia now that it would be an interesting BBSSIG topic.

At the moment I am butt deep in writing a paper for TAPR on using the G8BPQ Switch, but in the near future it should be an interesting topic. I do not think it needs a seperate data server. It is sure a part of this SIG however!


```

*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****

```

191. Re: [BBSSIG:668] Re: AA4RE mailing list?

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.mpcs.com>
 Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 13:50:47 -0500 (EST)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <199502281850.NAA00132@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks Mike, I was wondering if the reason I never heard from them was because I forgot to take a shower before sending the request in or something. I'll try Chris.

73 Howie

Mike Fahmie wrote:

```

>
> >One of my users runs AA4RE bbs. Anyone know the status of the mailing list?
> >A subscribe request was sent about 2 weeks ago but no reply/bounce/etc.
> >
> >Howie
> >N2WX
> >
> >
> I had the same experience 7 or 8 months ago when I subscribed, I wrote a
> note to Chris at spell@seq.uncwil.edu and he put me on the list.
>
> 73 Mike
>
> Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
> Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory
>

```

--

Howard Goldstein
 InfoMotion, Inc.

hg@n2wx.mpcs.com
<http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx>

192. Re: [BBSSIG:671] Re: New Mailing List...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
 Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 13:25:23 PST
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <9502281325.ZM975@hanko>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 2:43pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:
 > Subject: [BBSSIG:671] Re: New Mailing List...
 > On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:
 >
 > [nothing but name-calling, holier-than-thou, babblings]
 >
 > A PERFECT example of why people have asked me for a list to help with
 > communications about a certain aspect of their HOBBY.
 >
 > Some of our number find their only pleasure in flaming others interests,
 > and trying to "prove" how much better their ideas and interests are than
 > the next person's. All they "prove" is their own mean-spirited nature.
 >
 > I won't waste my time defending others rights to enjoy Amateur Radio the
 > way they wish. This is a given to all but a narrow-minded few. What
 > really AMAZES me, is that these have the GALL to flame people for using
 > the Internet to communicate Ham radio issues, using an Internet Ham radio
 > mailingf list. Is this the height of deceit, or what? Hank, buddy, stay
 > away from mirrors!
 >
 > I sent my announcement of this mailing list, not realizing that it would
 > cause such a commotion. I apologize to those with an obviously HIGHER
 > purpose in life; i.e., belittling others.

>
> I have learned a valuable lesson: NEVER to send out any other courtesy
> messages to a TAPR-sponsored mailing list. They do not seem to be
> welcome.
>
> I DAILY stand amazed at the level of self-destructive behavior that the
> Ham community spends at attacking their own. Wonder why our numbers are
> growing....

Brian,

it appears you did not bother to read what I wrote.

>From your above response, it appears that "your hobby" is
"talking on the telephone" and not HAM RADIO.

Would you care to address the point I made, or you just going
to yammer on about the STYLE in which I made that point?

Or are you one of those "wimp-ops" that has to resort to the telephone
and commercial networks, and CLAIM that what you are doing is "HAM RADIO"?

I did NOT attack anyone's use of ham radio, enjoyment of ham radio,
or their doing ANYTHING involving ham radio.

I attacked the land-line / commercial network hobby that is pretending
to be "HAM RADIO" on this list.

And you are darn right that I have a bad attitude on this topic,
and plan to yell and scream about it ... until the FCC takes all
our frequencies away because "You don't need them, but AT&T
and MCI do." Then I will spend my time on other hobbies, because
the hobby of HAM RADIO will no longer exist.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

193. [BBSSIG:669] Re: New Mailing List...

From: "Young, Gregory" <GYoung@ubmede.buffalo.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 16:34:00 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <2F53C254@ubmed.buffalo.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi all:

I actually find myself agreeing with Hank on the issue if forwarding over the
internet... to a degree!

We really do need to develop high speed radio networks, which is what I
thought I'd see discussed in this sig. when I first signed up quite some
time ago..I refer to 1-2 meg/sec transfers, not 19.2K, or 56K... Where are
these discussions? Software is impt, agreed, but let's get high speed
software running first!

I disagree with Hak's reply, in that I see nothing wrong with using internet,
while these links are being worked on, short of I suppose removing some SyOps
motivation to progress..If we do get comfortable with internet, our users
will eventually come to the realization that internet is where they should be
as well. Eventually as more and more ham traffic is posted directly, the
motivation for the user to give up 14.4/28.8K downloading over the phone
line, to go 1200/9.6K packet over the air will also be gone...

Let's move on guys....

Anyone modifying the 900 Mhz spread spectrum equip (part 16 I think), for
point to point 2 meg/sec transfers? How about Glen Elmore's 10 Ghz microwave
data system?? (part 97 equipment)

Where are the network builders out there???

73, Greg

194. Re: [BBSSIG:675] Re: New Mailing List...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 14:10:31 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502281410.ZM1006@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 3:46pm, Young, Gregory wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:675] Re: New Mailing List...
> Hi all:
>
> I actually find myself agreeing with Hank on the issue if forwarding over the
> internet... to a degree!

Oh no - none of this "damning with faint praise" stuff ...

> We really do need to develop high speed radio networks, which is what I
> thought I'd see discussed in this sig. when I first signed up quite some
> time ago..I refer to 1-2 meg/sec transfers, not 19.2K, or 56K... Where are
> tghese discussions? Software is impt, agreed, but let's get high speed
> software running first!

How about USING the existing low speed networks?
Even the 200-600 bps capability of CLOVER on HF can move MORE
traffic than is now presented to the network. How can I claim this?
Because I forward all the bulletins as well as all "long haul"
personal traffic using this mode. And my system is nowhere NEAR
saturated. However, it seems like the "wimp-ops" would rather
use the LL than make HF (or 1200 baud troposcatter, or ...) work.

> I disagree with Hak's reply, in that I see nothing wrong with using internet,
> while these links are being worked on, short of I suppose removing some SyOps
> motivation to progress..If we do get comfortable with internet, our users
> will eventually come to the realization that internet is where they should be
> as well. Eventually as more and more ham traffic is posted directly, the
> motivation for the user to give up 14.4/28.8K downloading over the phone
> line, to go 1200/9.6K packet over the air will also be gone...

Once telephone forwarding is in place, then there IS NO PRESSURE to
create the radio links, because there is no NEED for them. The traffic
gets there more quickly over the LL, and is never forwarded over the air.
The effort to "fix the broken network" comes to a halt, because there is
no longer a need for that network - it can remain broken, and the users
don't even notice: the messages and bulletins got through, didn't they?

"Why should I contribute to that 9600 baud upgrade, my traffic gets
through just fine without it."

... Hank
--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

195. [BBSSIG:676] Re: New Mailing List...

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 14:28:30 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502282234.QAA10004@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

It seems to me we are going to great lengths to bypass inadequacies in
our radio network. We keep bandaiding the network with phone
forwarding, internet forwarding, compression at the application layer,
etc all because we can't get the bandwidth.

I do telephone forwarding (and a bit of Internet too) as backups to
dead radios, etc. They are all valuable techniques but they aren't
amateur radio.

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

196. Re: [BBSSIG:677] Re: New Mailing List...

From: Rob Mayfield <mayfield@guest.adelaide.edu.au>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 09:22:42 +1030 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502282252.AA24210@wattle.itd.adelaide.edu.au>
Rendered body type: text/plain

*** Roy Engehausen tapped:
> I do telephone forwarding (and a bit of Internet too) as backups to
> dead radios, etc. They are all valuable techniques but they aren't
> amateur radio.

Maybe you can give us a definitive 'one size fits all' answer to 'what is amateur radio' Roy ? 'Black Box Networks' are no less amateur radio than 'Black Box Computers' or 'Black Box Radios' in the minds of the ultra conservative.

You've chosen where your line is to be drawn. Dont belittle others to the ranks of 'arent amateur radio' because they have drawn their lines elsewhere.

Rob

--
rob mayfield asc p/l box 73 oaklands park mayfield@itd.adelaide.edu.au
vk5xxx@vk5xxx.#adl.#sa.aus.oc http://wattle.itd.adelaide.edu.au/~mayfield

197. Re: [BBSSIG:671] Re: New Mailing List...

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 17:07:19 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199502282307.RAA24563@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Brian A. Lantz:
> I have learned a valuable lesson: NEVER to send out any other courtesy
> messages to a TAPR-sponsored mailing list. They do not seem to be
> welcome.

Where did you get thought from ?

Cheers - greg

198. RE: PBBS/Internet

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 18:05:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F53AE96@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

--
...Hank Oredson, WØRLI, replied to Barry Buelow, WAØRJT:

> The wimp-ops took the load off the network by bypassing it
> over the telephone, so there has been no NEED to grow the
> network. In many areas of the West, the ham radio network is
> rapidly deteriorating: it's much simpler to plug a modem into
> the telephone line compared to going up on those mountains to
> install 9600-baud modems or repair antennas.
>
> So the modems get connected, "Gee it works BETTER than the
> nodes" and the nodes fall into disuse and disrepair, then go
> away.
>
> We're seeing this NOW here in the West. It will be coming to
> a network near you soon. Once it happens, as it's happening
> here, the users will no longer need radios and TNCs: that
> little LL modem is "So Cheap and So Fast and So Easy" ...

Hank,

You're right; if all amateurs thought this way, every amateur would own a 1500-watt power amplifier; or the HF bands would always be as quiet as 10 meters has been lately, but the long-distance telephone business would be carrying a lot of international "59 and 73" traffic. The DXCC award would be replaced by something that reflects more pragmatic activities because why *work* for DXCC on noisy, crowded shortwave frequencies when you can get through faster and easier on the phone or Internet? So not to argue your position, but to point out my own personal, subjective opinion:

There seem to be two fundamental types of packet operators: (1) The network builders and (2) The users. I loosely include in category 1 the hardware and software weenies and PBBS SysOps. Some members of category 2 eventually join category 1, but my impression is that a lot of hams today come into the hobby already armed with a fair amount of networking, computer or RF knowledge and go directly into category 1. Hams who decide to "give

packet a try" and start out in category 2 tend to settle for permanently connecting to a PacketCluster or bopping into their local PBBS every day or so to read the mail and such. Some category 2 types get bored and get out of packet, others get bored and go on to try something "advanced" like TCP/IP and so on. Then we see them appear to hit a wall...

The wall is the point where they can't do a whole lot more to help advance the state of Amateur Radio packet networking unless they're C programmers or electronic circuit designers. Even if they're willing to climb mountains, shlep antennas, donate TNCs and other hardware, help hook up radios and TNCs, etc, it often seems like the hard-core category 1 types don't really want their help. It's almost as though the experts would just prefer that you "stay out of the way" if you can't write code or sketch'n'etch your own DSP pc boards. Then these hams feel a liitle inferior, maybe even insulted or hurt because no one seems to welcome their help or offer to teach them a few things. So they go off and dissolve into the woodwork, or they get ticked off and pronounce the more technical types "a bunch of egotistic geeks," etc, and go back to yakking on the 2-meter repeater or DXing on 14 MHz.

I've seen this happen. I've seen enthusiastic, promising, although perhaps "technically challenged," packet people effectively told "not to bother Daddy when he's working" because they don't seem to offer the specific skills the top-level gurus have or need.

The result is that instead of creating large, strong, unified teams of eager packeteers dedicated to help build and improve the networks in any way they possibly can, there are instead small knots of tech types struggling to make things happen, and huge mobs of "ignorant" operators who play with the neighborhood PBBSs, 'Clusters and NetROM nodes, and have as much or more fun with their 28.8 kbps landline modems and such. And even if they decide to try to run a PBBS or play with TCP/IP, for them it's easier to default to the Internet and other means non-RF of moving bytes around because they don't know what else to do and no one wants to work with them.

This is a broad generalization and I'm not trying to point the finger at any individual, but I think these are valid observations in many cases, and that perhaps the technically gifted and skilled people should sprinkle a dash of psychology into their bag of tricks to help them make others feel welcome and be eager to help.

Fortunately, the people around where I live who do most of the hardware and software development generally seem to welcome assistance and inquisitive discussion from "the great unwashed." It makes for more users having more fun; contributing more time, effort and money; and more inspiration for the network builders to keep building--because there are people standing by to *use* what they build! (Heck, we've all seen comments from some techies that almost say, "We'd have a better network if it wasn't for all these %\$#@!& USERS! You engineer a high-speed digital network and then these idiots come along and clog it up with data!")

We'll never see utopia in Amateur Radio, but this might give some of our technically ingenious ham brothers and sisters something to mull over.

(Now to stumble off the soapbox...)

Have an exceptional day and very 73!

--BB

Brian Battles, WS10, New Britain, CT USA
Amateur Radio Liaison, 1995 Special Olympics World Games
203-666-1541 (work), 203-827-9956 (home), 203-665-7531 (fax)
E-mail: bbattles@arrl.org (office), battles@ibm.net (home)
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ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org (TCP/IP)

ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

199. Re: [BBSSIG:679] Re: New Mailing List...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 15:35:54 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502281535.ZM1372@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 5:18pm, Greg Jones wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:679] Re: New Mailing List...

> According to Brian A. Lantz:
> > I have learned a valuable lesson: NEVER to send out any other courtesy
> > messages to a TAPR-sponsored mailing list. They do not seem to be
> > welcome.
>
> Where did you get thought from ?
>
> Cheers - greg

Yes, something about "heat" and "kitchen".

As far as I know, the charter of this group is to raise issues and discuss them. Sorry you didn't like my spelling/syntax/style/use of hyperbole/et al.

Now back to the topic: Is the use of commercial network resources good or bad for ham radio, ham radio networking in particular?

Greg perhaps could make his views known ...

Brian already has - and I think he is dead wrong, for reasons already stated.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

200. Re: [BBSSIG:669] Re: New Mailing List...

From: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 18:51:12 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502282351.AA22382@chaos.NIS.chaos>
Rendered body type: text/plain

My mailer said Hank Oredson said this:

>
> Just a short comment on the above.
>
> *** Flame thrower set to 10
>
> In a similar style: If only the idiots who are destroying ham
> radio by using commercial networks to replace the ham RADIO networks
> would just get along and agree to STOP their destructive behavior,
> then we would no longer have these discussions, and could instead
> get on with building a HAM RADIO NETWORK.

And I was trying to be nice by not naming any names, just stating a general observation. Got nothing to lose now, so "thanks" Hank, you're the reason. Your attitude about people doing things that *you* don't like has finally gotten to me. If I don't like something I usually just keep my mouth shut. Since you don't plan on doing that anytime soon, it's time to cut down on the noise level here by unsubscribing.

> Any idiot can hook a computer to a modem, buy time on their local
> internet provider, and push data back and forth. This is no more
> difficult than setting up a Fido, RBBS, or Wildcat BBS system for
> dial-in use, and MOVES HAM RADIO FORWARD just as well. i.e. it helps
> to prove to others (e.g. the FCC and the commercial interests) that
> there is no REASON to have ham radio frequencies available for hams
> to use BECAUSE THEY CAN DO IT BETTER OVER THE TELEPHONE!

Ham radio is second, computer experimenter is first. Telephone links are better, so I'll use them. The ONLY thing that I use packet for right now is to network Unix systems together with some of my close friends on secluded frequencies. Lately I've had my home system shut off for about 3-4 weeks and I haven't missed it one bit. I'll probably just keep a TEKK radio around, but for myself and a bunch of Macomb County Michigan hams, the wars, arguments, and complainers finally caught up to us and we finally just left to do our own thing.

I give a lot of help out to people, and when I work on a program I usually give it out too. In the past few years though the "Amateur"

in amateur radio has shown more and more and people have constantly been stabbing me in the back from all around and trying to cause trouble for me and my friends. Then people get mad at me when I don't give out some code or programs or invite someone to a closed meeting, don't tell them how I do something, or some other minor detail. Sure there are a lot of nice people out there, and I have a whole lot of them on the Detroit hamgate. Those users who login there and are nice enough to drop a "thank you" note to myself or the other sysops (we get them nearly everyday) are the only ones keeping me doing anything at all in packet. If they weren't there I'd drop packet in a heartbeat.

I know you've done a lot, but that doesn't give you the right to go and flame everyone and everything that you don't like and insist on how correct you *think* you are. You are wrong Hank, wake up and join reality for a change. Others out here are doing a lot and have done far more than you have, and they aren't flaming people constantly. Why don't you drop Phil Karn a note and complain at him for inventing the packet <> Internet gateway. Afterall, he wrote the code.

> If you feel you must respond, do so via the HAM RADIO NETWORK.
> I will answer all such responses, and ignore all responses that arrive
> via this COMMERCIAL network.

Thank you, I don't want a reply anyways.

--

Ron Atkinson N8FOW

AMPRnet : n8fow@wsu.n8fow.ampr.org
Internet : ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
aa011@detroit.freenet.org

201. Re: [BBSSIG:680] RE: PBBS/Internet

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 16:14:48 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502281614.ZM1403@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 5:29pm, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:680] RE: PBBS/Internet

>

>

> -----

> --

> ...Hank Oredson, W0RLI, replied to Barry Buelow, WA0RJT:

>

> > The wimp-ops took the load off the network by bypassing it
> > over the telephone, so there has been no NEED to grow the
> > network. In many areas of the West, the ham radio network is
> > rapidly deteriorating: it's much simpler to plug a modem into
> > the telephone line compared to going up on those mountains to
> > install 9600-baud modems or repair antennas.

>

> > So the modems get connected, "Gee it works BETTER than the
> > nodes" and the nodes fall into disuse and disrepair, then go
> > away.

>

> > We're seeing this NOW here in the West. It will be coming to
> > a network near you soon. Once it happens, as it's happening
> > here, the users will no longer need radios and TNCs: that
> > little LL modem is "So Cheap and So Fast and So Easy" ...

>

> Hank,

>

> You're right; if all amateurs thought this way, every amateur would own a
> 1500-watt power amplifier; or the HF bands would always be as quiet as 10
> meters has been lately, but the long-distance telephone business would be
> carrying a lot of international "59 and 73" traffic. The DXCC award would be
> replaced by something that reflects more pragmatic activities because why
> *work* for DXCC on noisy, crowded shortwave frequencies when you can get
> through faster and easier on the phone or Internet? So not to argue your
> position, but to point out my own personal, subjective opinion:

Naw ... 25W and a tribander is all it takes - at least that's
what I run ... and it works fine for the long-haul traffic.

- > There seem to be two fundamental types of packet operators: (1) The
- > network builders and (2) The users. I loosely include in category 1 the
- > hardware and software weenies and PBBS SysOps. Some members of category 2
- > eventually join category 1, but my impression is that a lot of hams today
- > come into the hobby already armed with a fair amount of networking, computer
- > or RF knowledge and go directly into category 1. Hams who decide to "give
- > packet a try" and start out in category 2 tend to settle for permanently
- > connecting to a PacketCluster or bopping into their local PBBS every day or
- > so to read the mail and such. Some category 2 types get bored and get out of
- > packet, others get bored and go on to try something "advanced" like TCP/IP
- > and so on. Then we see them appear to hit a wall...

At least those two categories. It is the category 1 folks who I see abandoning ham radio and resorting to commercial networks that concern me. These are the folks who enable things for the users. The users follow them and help them. When the "movers and shakers" are telling everyone "We can't manage this using ham radio, so let's use Ma Bell instead" then the users will follow right along. We have a local example of this up north of us in Seattle - got a phone call from a ham up there who wondered if he could help out in some way to make the links from Portland to Seattle work better. He lived at a VERY nice radio site. I asked him to listen on some specific frequencies to see what he could hear. He replied that he didn't own any radios (!) and had just called to see if my computer might like to dial up his computer so we could avoid the 10-15 minute delays due to forwarding over the radio network. Told him "no".

- > The wall is the point where they can't do a whole lot more to help advance
- > the state of Amateur Radio packet networking unless they're C programmers or
- > electronic circuit designers. Even if they're willing to climb mountains,
- > shlep antennas, donate TNCs and other hardware, help hook up radios and
- > TNCs, etc, it often seems like the hard-core category 1 types don't really
- > want their help. It's almost as though the experts would just prefer that
- > you "stay out of the way" if you can't write code or sketch'n'etch your own
- > DSP pc boards. Then these hams feel a little inferior, maybe even insulted
- > or hurt because no one seems to welcome their help or offer to teach them a
- > few things. So they go off and dissolve into the woodwork, or they get
- > ticked off and pronounce the more technical types "a bunch of egotistic
- > geeks," etc, and go back to yakking on the 2-meter repeater or DXing on 14
- > MHz.

Users provide a valuable function to the network builders: they are the source and sink for all the bits we are moving around. Without a strong user population, there would not be the pressure to improve the "system as a whole". For example, if I personally wanted a better link to my buddies in Minnesota, I'd probably talk one of them into getting on clover. This would give us a nice point-to-point message exchange capability. However, if I wanted to do software development with them, I would have to use the LL because the network does not support the size of data we need to transfer. I would ALSO set up the clover link so we could chit chat email back and forth and test the software live on air.

This kind of thing is NOT what I'm fussing about - what I'm fussing about is the bypassing of the ham radio networks on a regular basis for the handling of routine small volume personal messages and bulletins.

Of course there are situations where "we can't do it over the radio yet, but we are working on it". That's fine, no argument with those folks. My argument is with the folks who COULD use ham radio, but CHOOSE to use commercial networks instead. As a last resort, sure, why not. As a primary means to move traffic ... well, like I said, if it works better and faster and is cheaper then there will be no pressure to create the better faster cheaper ham radio network.

- > I've seen this happen. I've seen enthusiastic, promising, although perhaps
- > "technically challenged," packet people effectively told "not to bother
- > Daddy when he's working" because they don't seem to offer the specific
- > skills the top-level gurus have or need.

Certainly happens - have seen it myself here in the PNW network.

When folks ask how they can help me work on the software, I usually tell them to "Beat it to death - try anything any time - try and break it - check out all the new features - and let me know what you think of it" ... i.e. "Please sign up to be a beta tester".

My best "beta tester" right now is an 11 year old new ham ... he HAS made all the possible mistakes now, I hope ... but he has a whole bunch of "Elmers" - the high school kids. For some reason, my system seems to have a whole herd of kids among the user population. Discovering

that kc7ilg was only 11 was a bit of a surprise though ...

(I also recruit tower climbers, radio tuners, cable makers, network traffic pattern analyzers, etc. etc. I don't recruit programmers, because that's the part I enjoy doing)

- > The result is that instead of creating large, strong, unified teams of
- > eager packeteers dedicated to help build and improve the networks in any way
- > they possibly can, there are instead small knots of tech types struggling to
- > make things happen, and huge mobs of "ignorant" operators who play with the
- > neighborhood PBBSSs, 'Clusters and NetROM nodes, and have as much or more fun
- > with their 28.8 kbps landline modems and such. And even if they decide to
- > try to run a PBBSS or play with TCP/IP, for them it's easier to default to
- > the Internet and other means non-RF of moving bytes around because they
- > don't know what else to do and no one wants to work with them.

We don't have that situation in this area - there is a fairly good club - and the sysops (bad term - "those folks who build/maintain/own the network resources") all tend to work well together. Common goal: support the users with the best possible service. What we are NOT good at is bringing the users into the planning/funding/building process. We welcome them when they are interested, but do not recruit them.

Here is another issue that the group might address: how to better involve the "general mass of users" into the network building process.

- > This is a broad generalization and I'm not trying to point the finger at
- > any individual, but I think these are valid observations in many cases, and
- > that perhaps the technically gifted and skilled people should sprinkle a
- > dash of psychology into their bag of tricks to help them make others feel
- > welcome and be eager to help.

- > Fortunately, the people around where I live who do most of the hardware
- > and software development generally seem to welcome assistance and
- > inquisitive discussion from "the great unwashed." It makes for more users
- > having more fun; contributing more time, effort and money; and more
- > inspiration for the network builders to keep building--because there are
- > people standing by to *use* what they build! (Heck, we've all seen comments
- > from some techies that almost say, "We'd have a better network if it wasn't
- > for all these %\$#@!& USERS! You engineer a high-speed digital network and
- > then these idiots come along and clog it up with data!")

I've seen that also. Not here: we (the network builders "we") count on the users to be a source of network load - else how could we tell if the network we built actually works?

- > We'll never see utopia in Amateur Radio, but this might give some of our
- > technically ingenious ham brothers and sisters something to mull over.

Very good points ... and one facet of the concern I've been babbling about is that issue of the "gee, let's do it over commercial networks" folk taking network load (and money and resources and users) away from the ham radio network. Without the users, there will be no network.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

202. Re: [BBSSIG:682] Re: New Mailing List...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 16:31:31 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502281631.ZM2414@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 5:50pm, Ron Atkinson wrote:
<deletia>

- > Ham radio is second, computer experimenter is first. Telephone links
- > are better, so I'll use them. The ONLY thing that I use packet for
- > right now is to network Unix systems together with some of my close
- > friends on secluded frequencies. Lately I've had my home system shut
- > off for about 3-4 weeks and I havn't missed it one bit. I'll probably

> just keep a TEKK radio around, but for myself and a bunch of Macomb
> County Michigan hams, the wars, arguments, and complainers finally
> caught up to us and we finally just left to do our own thing.

Ok, so you are not presently active in building the ham radio network.
In that case, why bother with this discussion group?
Go on ahead and do your thing, which as you stated is computers first,
ham radio second. This group is here for the discussion of ham radio
networking - and my point was to discuss those things - NOT the use
of Ma Bell.

> I know you've done a lot, but that doesn't give you the right to go
> and flame everyone and everything that you don't like and insist on
> how correct you *think* you are. You are wrong Hank, wake up and
> join reality for a change. Others out here are doing a lot and have
> done far more than you have, and they aren't flaming people constantly.
> Why don't you drop Phil Karn a note and complain at him for inventing
> the packet <> Internet gateway. Afterall, he wrote the code.

Ok, you say I'm wrong. Do you have some observations to support that?

>From your comments above about the Michigan network, it appears
that my analysis of the situation is exactly on the mark: the use
of commercial communications facilities does NOT help the building
of a ham radio network, but instead harms it. You took the easy way
out - the telephone - instead of solving the ham radio network problem.

The issue I raised, to which you did not respond was:

"Is the use of commercial communications facilities to bypass the
ham radio network a "good thing" or a "bad thing"?

How about some comments on the topic?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

203. Re: [BBSSIG:681] Re: New Mailing List...

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 19:45:29 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502281820.A28195-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> If you feel you must respond, do so via the HAM RADIO NETWORK.
> I will answer all such responses, and ignore all responses that arrive
> via this COMMERCIAL network.

Then Hank, you must be getting a very FAST feed of this mailing list over
Ham Radio, since you said you WOULDN't reply to any INTERNET mail.....

> On Feb 28, 5:18pm, Greg Jones wrote:
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:679] Re: New Mailing List...
> > According to Brian A. Lantz:
> > > I have learned a valuable lesson: NEVER to send out any other courtesy
> > > messages to a TAPR-sponsored mailing list. They do not seem to be
> > > welcome.
> >
> > Where did you get thought from ?
> >
> > Cheers - greg
>
> Yes, something about "heat" and "kitchen".

First off, look at the thread. ALL I DID was (as a courtesy) announce a
new mailing list. THAT'S IT!

Since then, I have (yes) received heat. WHY? I did not flame. I did not

> then we would no longer have these discussions, and could instead
> get on with building a HAM RADIO NETWORK.
>
> Any idiot can hook a computer to a modem, buy time on their local
> internet provider, and push data back and forth. This is no more
> difficult than setting up a Fido, RBBS, or Wildcat BBS system for
> dial-in use, and MOVES HAM RADIO FORWARD just as well. i.e. it helps
> to prove to others (e.g. the FCC and the commercial interests) that
> there is no REASON to have ham radio frequencies available for hams
> to use BECAUSE THEY CAN DO IT BETTER OVER THE TELEPHONE!
>
> The folks that want to do this stuff SHOULD have their own newsgroup
> or list server, so they can get out of the way of the REAL HAMS who
> are actually building HAM RADIO networks.
>
>
> I propose naming this new list wimp-ops so that everyone who might
> subscribe will be well notified that these folks are NOT REAL HAMS,
> but wimps-ops unable to accomplish what they wish USING HAM RADIO.
>
> Don't give me the bogus argument that "these commercial links are for
> use by hams" ... so is AT&T, CIS, MCI, OAL, et al. ANY ham can use
> those network IN PLACE OF THEIR RADIO.
>
> Just to make it real plain, if the above did not: In my viewpoint the
> use of commercial networks INSTEAD of ham radio networks to construct
> a so called ham radio network is a total cop-out. The folks doing this,
> in my view, are wimps: unable to make it in ham radio, they go play on
> the commercial networks. Please take these discussions SOMEWHERE ELSE
> and leave us (those of us who are trying to build a HAM RADIO NETWORK)
> alone so we can get on with it.
>
> *** Flame thrower off.
>
> If you feel you must respond, do so via the HAM RADIO NETWORK.
> I will answer all such responses, and ignore all responses that arrive
> via this COMMERCIAL network.
>
>
> ... Hank
>
>
> --
>
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
> Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM
>
If you don't like our "COMMERCIAL SERVICES" then why are you on the
Internet. I know one thing. It's messages like the above that have
completely ruined the packet radio network in this country.

We are not trying to build a "COMMERCIAL NETWORK" in place of ham radio.
We are trying to make it easier to navigate messages through the packet
network in this country.

Amateur radio is supposed to be a hobby and we are supposed to enjoy
ourselves. So does that mean that if I'm using Internet, I'm any less of
a ham or I have any less of a ham license or privileges than you do or
anybody else does? I really don't think so.

I know this, though. I try to sit down and read packet messages and
respond to packet messages when I can, but I personally would appreciate
it if EVERYONE would stop the constant "flame throwers" that have been
flaming... if you don't like Internet, shut it off. If you don't like
hams, get out of the hobby. Don't make it miserable for the rest of us
to have fun and enjoy our hobby.

If you ignore this message, Hank, that's fine. I personally want to keep
discussions like this one OFF of the packet network because there's too
much griping going on in packet. On Internet, we can gripe. I won't
send any responses via packet because we need to keep this filth off of
packet. That's what's polluting our airwaves.

I will take responses wherever I get them... :)

>>> Jason A Miller, KB7YWI miller14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu
Packet: kb7ywi@kd7bn.wy.usa.na AMPR.ORG: Soon...

205. Re: [BBSSIG:685] Re: New Mailing List...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 17:24:47 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502281724.ZM2737@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 6:53pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

Brian, I'll try and state this very simply:

1. Why would one form such a list?

Presumably to facilitate the use of commercial communications resources instead of ham radio resources.

2. Why would anyone do that?

Presumably because they are unable to make use of existing ham radio resources or create new ones.

3. Have the folks involved thought through the implications?

I don't think so.

> I didn't know that there WAS a topic. There was no TOPIC raised, just a
> simple courteous message.

The formation of this list IS the topic I'm ranting about: an effort to facilitate the use of commercial communications for ham radio traffic.

> As for my views on the "TOPIC", no Hank, I haven't stated ANY opinion on
> this. I HAVE stated that I believe that adults should act like adults, be
> tolerant of others, and not unnecessarily get into name calling sessions.

Yup, heard that. Didn't hear anything about ham radio though.

> Since you do not know where I stand on this "TOPIC", who can you believe
> I'm wrong? Ooops, I forgot.... King Hank! Hail!

1. Please see your own statement above.

2. You appear to be the leader of this "Let's use commercial communications instead of ham radio" thing, so I assume you are in favor of bypassing the ham radio network by using commecial facilities.

> After this spew of venom, I would probably find a better use for my
> tickets to St. Louis using them for bookmarks. I no longer get warm
> fuzzies when I think of TAPR.

Oh poor poor baby. I will try to pamper your tender skin in the future.
(That's sarcasm)

Yes, I *am* questioning your motives. That is *exactly* what I am doing. I'm asking for some justification for splitting this group up into "ham radio networking" and "commercial networking" sub-groups. The question needs to be raised: "Is this good for ham radio, or harmful?" I think it is harmful. When I see someone doing things that I believe will harm ham radio, then I speak out.

To keep the language simple: Forming such a group is counter to the intent of TAPR, and the intent of this group. Anything that takes resources away from building ham radio networks is off charter - WAY off charter.

Want to respond with some ideas and/or observations, or is your position totally content-free?

(Please read the above sentence carefully before you respond to it.)

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"

206. Re: [BBSSIG:686] Re: New Mailing List...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 17:32:59 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502281732.ZM2742@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 6:56pm, Jason A Miller wrote:

> If you don't like our "COMMERCIAL SERVICES" then why are you on the
> Internet. I know one thing. It's messages like the above that have
> completely ruined the packet radio network in this country.

"Why I'm on the internet" is obvious.

I did not say I did not like commercial communications services,
I use them every day both at work and at home.

> We are not trying to build a "COMMERCIAL NETWORK" in place of ham radio.
> We are trying to make it easier to navigate messages through the packet
> network in this country.

That is certainly *not* what was stated. What was stated was that
you planned to use commercial communications services in place of
ham radio. Isn't that what it's about? "Gee, it is simpler to forward
over the internet or other telephone transport, so let's form our own
group to discuss ways and means instead of working on the ham radio
network." If that is NOT what was said, then please explain.

> Amateur radio is supposed to be a hobby and we are supposed to enjoy
> ourselves. So does that mean that if I'm using Internet, I'm any less of
> a ham or I have any less of a ham license or privileges than you do or
> anybody else does? I really don't think so.

Did I say that? No. I said hams that choose to direct their energy
IN THE HOBBY toward bypassing and subverting the use of the hobby
are not acting in the best interest of that hobby.

> I know this, though. I try to sit down and read packet messages and
> respond to packet messages when I can, but I personally would appreciate
> it if EVERYONE would stop the constant "flame throwers" that have been
> flaming... if you don't like Internet, shut it off. If you don't like
> hams, get out of the hobby. Don't make it miserable for the rest of us
> to have fun and enjoy our hobby.

You are new to the internet perhaps?

> If you ignore this message, Hank, that's fine. I personally want to keep
> discussions like this one OFF of the packet network because there's too
> much griping going on in packet. On Internet, we can gripe. I won't
> send any responses via packet because we need to keep this filth off of
> packet. That's what's polluting our airwaves.

This is "filth" ? Oh please.
Censorship is a different issue. It should be debated in this forum.

> I will take responses wherever I get them... :)

Good. Will you also address the ISSUE?
The above was a nice try, but it said nothing to the point.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

207. Re: [BBSSIG:687] Re: New Mailing List...

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 21:00:41 +0000

To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502282036.H28195-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

Since I have a life outside of public slurring on BBSSIG, this will be my final message.....

> On Feb 28, 6:53pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:
>
> Brian, I'll try and state this very simply:
>
> 1. Why would one form such a list?

Because SOME people have wider interests than you do. Does that make them wrong? Based on the FLOOD of support mail I have been receiving here at the house for the last hour or so, not being like you is highly desirable by many.

> Presumably to facilitate the use of commercial communications
> resources instead of ham radio resources.
 ^^^^^^

You REALLY don't get it, do you? It's not INSTEAD OF, it is in ADDITION TO!

> 2. Why would anyone do that?

Because they WANTED to, and this IS America, not Hank-land.

> Presumably because they are unable to make use of existing
> ham radio resources or create new ones.

Wrong, they simply have chosen to use resource that you CLAIM you have no need for....

What about it, Hank! You SAID you wouldn't respond to Internet message about this.

> 3. Have the folks involved thought through the implications?
>
> I don't think so.

The implications are that they have a RIGHT to do as they please, even if it makes YOU feel somehow threatened.

You know, Amateur Radio was FINE before Packet (yes, more heresy). I don't think a few Amateurs sending a few less of those VALUABLE message over RF will be the total destruction of Amateur Radio, life, and the American way.

> > I didn't know that there WAS a topic. There was no TOPIC raised, just a
> > simple courteous message.
>
> The formation of this list IS the topic I'm ranting about: an effort
> to facilitate the use of commercial communications for ham radio traffic.

You are SUCH a piece of work! WHAT BUSINESS OF YOURS IS IT if I start a mailing list on my machine, using my resources, for people who have asked for the favor? WHAT HAVE you been smokin'?

> > As for my views on the "TOPIC", no Hank, I haven't stated ANY opinion on
> > this. I HAVE stated that I believe that adults should act like adults, be
> > tolerant of others, and not unnecessarily get into name calling sessions.
>
> Yup, heard that. Didn't hear anything about ham radio though.

You definitely need a life....

> > Since you do not know where I stand on this "TOPIC", who can you believe
> > I'm wrong? Ooops, I forgot.... King Hank! Hail!
>
> 1. Please see your own statement above.

Hank, I STILL have NEVER stated whether I believe this to be the best way to transfer Amateur Packet Messages! NEVER! If you have found something in these message that DOES, you have written it in on your copy.

I just happen to believe that individuals have the right to do what they wish without being ridiculed because they aren't a Hank-ette.

> 2. You appear to be the leader of this "Let's use commercial communications
> instead of ham radio" thing, so I assume you are in favor of bypassing
> the ham radio network by using commecial facilities.

Once again, Hank, take another toke of that stuff. It must be good!

> > After this spew of venom, I would probably find a better use for my
> > tickets to St. Louis using them for bookmarks. I no longer get warm
> > fuzzies when I think of TAPR.
>
> Oh poor poor baby. I will try to pamper your tender skin in the future.
> (That's sarcasm)
>
> Yes, I *am* questioning your motives.

My "motives" (if I had any) are NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!!!!!! What makes you think that ANYONE has to answer to you?

> That is *exactly* what
> I am doing. I'm asking for some justification for splitting
> this group up into "ham radio networking" and "commercial networking"
> sub-groups.

I NEED NO JUSTIFICATION for starting a mailing list on my machine! I have made NO attempt to split, unlike you and your devise manner.

Besides, someone REALLY needs to explain to you that PBBS Message forwarding is NOT networking.

> The question needs to be raised: "Is this good for
> ham radio, or harmful?" I think it is harmful. When I see someone
> doing things that I believe will harm ham radio, then I speak out.
>
> To keep the language simple: Forming such a group is counter
> to the intent of TAPR, and the intent of this group. Anything
> that takes resources away from building ham radio networks is
> off charter - WAY off charter.

Your feelings are exactly the reason that some with the desire to do this asked for another place to do it. Considering your strong feelings of this, I would think that you would welcome all who are not your followers leaving your little world intact.

> Want to respond with some ideas and/or observations, or is your
> position totally content-free?

I guess only slanderable statements are considered to have content.

> (Please read the above sentence carefully before you respond to it.)

My position, was that I believed that some members of the TAPR BBSSIG would POSSIBLY be interested in a mailing list, and I made a simple innocent CC: of the message here.

Since then, you have made such a total @^@##%# of yourself, that I highly regret it. I DON'T regret making a list available. I just regret having had anything to do with this SIG or TAPR.

If this kind of polution and character attacks are what TAPR is about, fold it up, Greg....

A better name for this would be HANKSIG.

This will be my last message on this HANKSIG thread.....

Brian A. Lantz

brian@lantz.com


```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

208. Re: [BBSSIG:688] Re: New Mailing List...

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 95 01:52:11 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <71178@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

This thread has moved more and more off center as we go. First of all I started this so let me get it back on center a little bit.

My original plea, question, request was to the BBS community to make it easier for traffic to pass between SMPT (TCP/IP) mail and BBS mail. This has nothing directly to do with internet BUT unfortunately in my original message I mentioned INTERNET. That was my mistake BUT...

Since amateur TCP/IP and more specifically SMTP mail conforms to internet standards we (amateurs) CAN send and receive mail to other communities throughout the world. What we can't do, at least not with ease, is send mail to our OWN because of the non-standard nature of BBS's.

Since (I presume) that Hank was an original author and designer of that (BBS) code I guess he is just being defensive. The bottom line is that good or bad not much thought was given to this interface way back when. Way back when there was little if any TCP/IP in amateur radio. That is changing FAST. Either you move with the change or get left behind. I prefer to move ahead with the tremendous capabilities of TCP/IP.

So let me reemphasis - this is NOT a network issue it is a standards issue, compatibility issue between the BBS and TCP/IP networks. Whether it is landline, radio or whatever has nothing to do with it.

I think that it was Brian's intent to start a list to discuss this (lack of) interface and what could be done about it.

I don't get the rationale behind a statement like "I won't read or respond to a message that goes over wire" How the hell would you ever know that?

Oh well I am sure this will not get it back on track but hope it will. This is a perfect example of WHY we could never have a reliable nationwide network - because these fights spill over to the working level of actually developing these networks. Personalities, unfortunately, always prevail.

Doug

209. Re: [BBSSIG:689] Re: New Mailing List...

From: David Hess NK3T <DHESS@UMES.UMD.EDU>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 21:17:52 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503010223.VAA21060@umd5.umd.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995 20:03:49 -0600 Brian A. Lantz said:

>On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

>

>Since I have a life outside of public slurring on BBSSIG, this will be my
>final message.....

>

>> On Feb 28, 6:53pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

>>

>> Brian, I'll try and state this very simply:

>>

>> 1. Why would one form such a list?

>

```
>
Clipping out gobs of lines, but I like the below signature too much to cut.

>
>-----
>Brian A. Lantz                                brian@lantz.com
>
>REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
>  while (memory_available)  {
>      eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
>      if (feel_like_it)
>          make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
>      gates_bank_balance++;
>  }
>
>
Hi Brian,
I live in a rural area, and if it were not for Internet, we would not see
the outside world of packet. I am one that would like to subscribe to your
list. One good perk of the list, is Hank will not subscribe, so we can
spend lots of time flaming Hank and his code, and we will not have to
have out systems loaded with his trash.
73 and keep your chin up,
Dave NK3T
```

210. What a MESS!

```
From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 19:50:25 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950228194208.29831A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

I decided to stop reading the venem that is being spilled over a very simple message that Brian Lantz put in this SIG. He said he was starting a new server on the internet to talk about pbbs over the Internet. It won't even BE a PART of TAPR!

I said why not put this thread on the BBSSIG so the larger audience could read it. Then Hank, with a valid reason came in saying this is a bad subject for this SIG since it isn't ham radio.

Far as I can see the best thing Brian Lantz can do is sign off of this SIG and meet me at the Bar in the King James 111 hotel saturday after pizza and I will buy you one.

But the subject should still be here...running and ducking...:-)

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

211. Re: [BBSSIG:691] Re: New Mailing List...

```
From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 19:57:59 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950228195241.29831B-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

Lots removed.....

```
> >
> Hi Brian,
> I live in a rural area, and if it were not for Internet, we would not see
> the outside world of packet. I am one that would like to subscribe to your
> list. One good perk of the list, is Hank will not subscribe, so we can
> spend lots of time flaming Hank and his code, and we will not have to
> have out systems loaded with his trash.
> 73 and keep your chin up,
> Dave NK3T
>
```

Dave, this kind of message makes nobody happy. If you are the next savior and have made no errors in your life, then you can call another mans work trash. In my view it is YOUR message quoted above that is TRASH!

Your message has no idea, plan information or idea. It is just invective. I hate to see this.

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

212. Re: [BBSSIG:692] What a MESS!

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 22:08:17 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950228220525.22935B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> Far as I can see the best thing Brian Lantz can do is sign off of
> this SIG and meet me at the Bar in the King James 111 hotel saturday
> after pizza and I will buy you one.

Sounds like a good idea. if Brian is even around here, I'll buy him
Pizza and a beer... However, same offer goes to just about anyone on this
sig... {Grin}

> But the subject should still be here...running and ducking...:-)

Well, I'm kinda to the point where I'm tired of the flames... Nothing
gets worked out when the "fighting" goes on...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jjix@n3jjix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

213. [BBSSIG:690] Re: New Mailing List...

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 19:00:32 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503010338.VAA12682@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In <71178@wa3dsp.ampr.org> Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120] writes:

> ...
>of all I started this so let me get it back on center alittle
>bit.
>
>My original plea, question, request was to the BBS community to
>make it easier for traffic to pass between SMPT (TCP/IP) mail
>and BBS mail. This has nothing directly to do with internet
>BUT unfortunately in my original message I mentioned INTERNET.
>That was my mistake BUT...
>
>Since amateur TCP/IP and more specifically SMTP mail conforms
>to internet standards we (amateurs) CAN send and receive mail
>to other communities throughout the world. What we can't do,
>at least not with ease, is send mail to our OWN because of the
>non-standard nature of BBS's.
>
>

I applaud your ideas. However, It is not necessary that BBS systems
support SMTP. Lotus Notes mail is not SMTP. CC-Mail is not SMTP.
They have gateways to the SMTP world. IN a similar vein, NOARY et al

built Packet BBS <-> SMTP gateways.

Let me give you my perspective:

In 20/20 hindsight, our booboo is that PBBS addresses and Internet addresses look the same. People get confused. We should have had something outlandish like Fido addresses so no one would ever mix them up.

We are pretty much locked into the PBBS standard now. We can make changes like NOAM instead of NA but to radically change the address format would be almost impossible.

At various times, people such as Hank and myself have suggested marrying the two names spaces. An example would be

AA4RE@AA4RE.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM.AMPR.ORG

I even put code in my BBS to strip the AMPR.ORG off so it would be compatible with existing systems. The PBBS people could have wildcard MX records on the Internet that point to the gateways. If N0ARY was the California gateway, the MX would look something like

*.CA.USA.NOAM.AMPR.ORG MX 10 N0ARY.AMPR.ORG

Mail would go to N0ARY.AMPR.ORG and gatewayed into the PBBS network.

Before you jump me about not knowing what I am talking about, you should know that I am not a novice about SMTP, TCP/IP, etc. I have been inside of sendmail.cf files too many times. I support a number of Internet connections, domains, ASN's, and network addresses. I work in the LAN/WAN business. I am pretty sure something like this would work technically. I don't claim to be the world's expert but I am not a dumb ^%&%\$U who hasn't RTFM.

Unfortunately, what happens when these ideas come up is numerous flames circulate about domain addressing, routing, etc. Nothing gets settled and it all dies down again.

Please don't send the mailing list or me any flames. I have read most of the rest of the notes. I see where people's positions are and it is obvious that in serval caes, no discussion will change their minds.

How about some rational comments like Doug suggested or, if that is not possible, then just some peace and quiet :-)

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

214. Re: [BBSSIG:683] RE: PBBS/Internet

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 21:39:19 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9502282117.A10056-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I know, no one asked, but I'll throw in my two cents worth just because I have it and feel a need to support one side of this argument.

I agree with Hank and Roy on this one. Constantly bypassing the HAM RADIO network to do forwarding is counter productive, for the reasons already stated.

As far as I know, this list is a use of the internet for discussion of HAM RADIO BBS operations and ideas, software help, etc. While it would not be uninteresting to have a list or group to discuss forwarding methods over alternate means, I don't feel that this is that group. Let's get back to HAM RADIO issues.

Gary

215. Re: [BBSSIG:694] Re: What a MESS!

From: Jason A Miller <miller14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 21:52:23 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SCO.3.91.950228215019.6883A-100000@odi.cwc.whecn.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

```
> > Far as I can see the best thing Brian Lantz can do is sign off of
> > this SIG and meet me at the Bar in the King James 111 hotel saturday
> > after pizza and I will buy you one.
>
> Sounds like a good idea. if Brian is even around here, I'll buy him
> Pizza and a beer... However, same offer goes to just about anyone on this
> sig... {Grin}
>
I'm glad to see we've got some amateur radio-type friendship back on this
group. Thanks guys. It makes me feel good to read e-mail and not be
immediately put on the offensive :)

>> Jason A Miller, KB7YWI miller14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu
```

P.S. -- If any one of you is around Riverton, WY (why you would be I don't know) I'll buy you a pizza and a beer too. TNX. -Jason, KB7YWI

216. ham radio networks

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 95 20:50:29 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503010511.XAA13532@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The irony I see in this debate is that we are responsible for this shift to using commercial means for BBS forwarding. First there was the STA that went on for years which limited the number of HF fwding stations. This forced non-STA BBSes who wanted to be "players" into resorting either to illegal HF forwarding, or to use of the telephone.

Then, as sysops stridently defended the right of users to submit non-amateur related bulletins, the increased fwding traffic over-taxed primitive network capacity in many areas of the country. It became apparent to many that commercial services is a much cheaper alternative than raising several thousands of dollars for local network upgrades.

Even more ironic is that as the volume of junk mail increased, user participation of many boards decreased. Obviously most users are not interested in investing in packet gear for the purpose of downloading fruit cake recipes from their local ham radio BBS. I suspect that many of the network builders have observed the futility in THEM spending THEIR time and money upgrading packet radio networks just for the purpose of supporting an increased volume of junk mail that goes unread.

Until the bbs sysop community recognizes that traffic quantity has little relationship to traffic quality, commercial services will play an increasing role in forwarding.

73 de Jack

217. Re: [BBSSIG:677] Re: New Mailing List...

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 23:24:56 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503010524.XAA25155@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I agree with your and Greg's statements.

The key is radios. If we don't come up with an adequate speed increase for the dollar for the typical user -- we will continue to see the zapping of participants to other communication forms (not just commercial wireline).

The geewez factor has left for many -- not surprising since the speed of operations has been unchanged for 99% of people for the last eight - ten years. Those of us still active have found other things to get involved with other than just day to day operations. We have become BBS sysops, network builders, software developers, and other such demanding tasks.

While the introduction recently of 9600 baud ready radios is a good thing, and long overdue, the \$400+ should be buying us a lot more communication than 9600. In theory a 1Mb or 2Mb digital radio could be done for that amount... the chip sets are out there and with the enormous amount of R&D dollars being dropped into wireless communications by several of the fortune 500 -- we should as amateurs be able to take advantage of it.

TAPR formed a PCS group end of last year to begin to examine the

technology and see what might be able to be transferred into the amateur environment...not much happened thus far. I am hoping to kick start it again at the upcoming annual meeting this weekend. We will see what happens.

We either do some things to reintroduce the geewiz aspect of the hobby or be prepared to see participation fade away.

Folks are either going to stand around complaining or they are going to get involved and help be part of the solution. Complainers who are never happy with any solution have been a classic aspect of life. Those that participate and become an active part of the solution are few and far between.

As I try to remind people from time to time -- this is only a hobby.
Are we having fun yet ?

Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD

According to Roy Engehausen:

>
> It seems to me we are going to great lengths to bypass inadequacies in
> our radio network. We keep bandaiding the network with phone
> forwarding, internet forwarding, compression at the application layer,
> etc all because we can't get the bandwidth.
>
> I do telephone forwarding (and a bit of Internet too) as backups to
> dead radios, etc. They are all valuable techniques but they aren't
> amateur radio.
>
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com
>

218. Re: [BBSSIG:685] Re: New Mailing List...

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 1995 23:51:47 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503010551.XAA27491@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Brian A. Lantz:

> Greg... Where did I get the thought from? From the unprovoked and
> opinionated attacks that a single informational message spawned.
>
> After this spew of venom, I would probably find a better use for my
> tickets to St. Louis using them for bookmarks. I no longer get warm
> fuzzies when I think of TAPR.
>
> I now think of Hank, poster child of BBSSIG!
>

Sorry you feel that way, based on a few messages from a few individuals. It is a big world and you should standup and state your view and continue to do so. Everyones view is important.

The IMPORTANT ASPECT OF ANY OF THE TAPR SIGS is that everyone must respect the other fellows position. It probably has not been stated often enough by the Chairs of any of the groups, but people should state their thoughts and comments as positive argumnets and not attacks.

The SIG Chairs will be meeting in St Louis to dicuss the type of discourse that has been happening throughout the year, so that we can focus on the things that have worked the best.

My only comment is that if anyone particpating on any of the SIGs have comments on how the discussions can be handled better should contact the Chair. If you feel strong enough about change -- then get active and help work towards a solution to help improve the situation. It is alwasys easier to jump out of the sandbox and start another -- however that misses the whole point of working towards something that helps advance the radio art.

There will be some changes with the BBSSIG at the Annual Meeting this weekend. I am sure the changes will be posted here shortly after the meeting and once they are all confirmed.

Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD

March 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9503

Source: http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9503

1. Re: [BBSSIG:692] What a MESS!

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 00:29:41 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503010629.AAA01735@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Klarsen:

> Far as I can see the best thing Brian Lantz can do is sign off of
> this SIG and meet me at the Bar in the King James 111 hotel saturday
> after pizza and I will buy you one.

THE BEST SUGGESTION YET!

Beer after pizza -- its a date and I'll get the first round.
There is a bar next door.

Greg

2. Re: [BBSSIG:701] Re: What a MESS!

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 00:57:54 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503010657.AAA02505@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Greg Jones:

>
> According to Klarsen:
> > Far as I can see the best thing Brian Lantz can do is sign off of
> > this SIG and meet me at the Bar in the King James 111 hotel saturday
> > after pizza and I will buy you one.
>
> THE BEST SUGGESTION YET!
>
> Beer after pizza -- its a date and I'll get the first round.
> There is a bar next door.
>

Should have read it closer....don't logoff Brian.

I get the first round Friday night after Pizza and before the NETSIG meeting. There is a bar next door to the Henry the VIII hotel in St Louis. Since I have to be around at the NETSIG meeting I'll let Karl get the second round.

Cheers -- Greg

3. SMTP/BBS gateways

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 95 06:29:07 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <71243@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The idea of SMTP to BBS gateways is a good one - BUT not a new one. This exists NOW in JNOS (KA9Q NOS modified) and works quite well. I use it all the time. Hundreds of messages a week transverse between my JNOS TCP/IP BBS and local non-TCP/IP BBS's.

However for this to work the way things are now EVERY BBS would have to have this gateway capability BECAUSE INTERNET/AMPRNET hostnames are not valid BBS 'to' field addresses THEREFORE the address could not be passed to another non-TCP/IP BBS unless a change were made.

I know that Hank, Roy etc. understand what I am saying.

The gateways basically exist the problem is the inability for the BBS code to formulate an INTERNET DOMAIN address name.

Even if EVERY BBS in the country were directly connected to

a JNOS system users on the BBS could not send mail to TCP/IP users.

The problem is NOT and cannot be corrected in the JNOS gateways
Either the BBS has to be able to send the correct address in
it's 'TO' field or talk SMTP. I suppose another approach would
be to 'fake' the 'TO' address in the subject or data field
but this would be another kludge.

I am talking out of my hat but when a user at Prodigy or AOL or
at a MS mail site sends mail to an INTERNET site the SMPT translation
is done at there site - in other words it is the BBS's
responsibility to translate or in effect talk SMTP to the INTERNET.

PLEASE PLEASE do not start with the wireline stuff - that is
another issue - INTERNET is a borad term including AMPRNET which
in MOST areas IS done via amateur radio circuits.

So the discussion is:

Do we modify BBS code in some way to allow this?
How do you propose that a BBS user send mail to an INTERNET
DOMAIN name?

How do we send BBS addresses thru the AMPRNET? Do we
(can we) create MX records to do this.

This problem IS NOT going to go away - as the TCP/IP community
grows it will get worse. I am tired of talking about it. You
know what the problem is - just review the last weeks messages
on BBSSIG - minus the flames.

Doug

4. Re: [BBSSIG:667] AA4RE mailing list? (was re: forward list)

From: kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 95 03:49:55 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <24441@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello Im Interested in this too. only ONE other system in My Area
uses AA4RE BBS WB3JOE in PA and My self KB2HJC in #SNJ.NJ

so any info Helpful for lists etc

Amprnet: KB2HJC@NX2B.AMPR.ORG AX.25: KB2HJC@WA2NDV.NY.USA.NOAM
Email: COMPUSERVE 75550.130 Internet: 75550.130@compuserve.com
Voice: 145.110 Rpt. PL 3B Phone: Being Changed
TCP/IP-Netrom: [44.65.32.24] BBSHJC:KB2HJC-8

5. Re: [BBSSIG:703] SMTP/BBS gateways

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 01:55:02 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950301012231.11756A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 1 Mar 1995 wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org wrote:

>
> The idea of SMTP to BBS gateways is a good one - BUT not a
> new one. This exists NOW in JNOS (KA9Q NOS modified) and
> works quite well. I use it all the time. Hundreds of messages
> a week transverse between my JNOS TCP/IP BBS and local
> non-TCP/IP BBS's.

Doug, I am a bbs sysop and run jnos 1.10h with fbb forwarding and
have been working the problems of coming from the .ampr.org world to the
.nm.usa.noam world. It is a JNOS problem and it can be so;ved and is
solved here. But the address a guy needs to put on his smtp is a bit odd.
The average ham will have trouble with it.

Getting mail FROM the f6fbb pbbs and to jnos is easy since they
can do a normal forward, and I can tell f6fbb to send mail for certain
hams to the jnos. But I have not solved the translation of address from
pbbs to .ampr.org. I feel rewrite can do it but rewrite doesn't seem to
like my efforts at a script yet.

>
> However for this to work the way things are now EVERY BBS would
> have to have this gateway capability BECAUSE INTERNET/AMPRNET
> hostnames are not valid BBS 'to' field addresses THEREFORE the
> address could not be passed to another non-TCP/IP BBS unless
> a change were made.
>

Doug, let's work out the kinks in the ham radio area first. When we can reliably pass traffic between the bbs and smtp parts of nos were both are ham radio, then the guys near wormholes can try some smtp forwards to other gateways.

> I know that Hank, Roy etc. understand what I am saying.
>
> The gateways basically exist the problem is the inability for
> the BBS code to formulate an INTERNET DOMAIN address name.

No, the problem is in nos with a bbs funtion. The bbs can talk to it and it (nos) needs to do the translation.

>
> Even if EVERY BBS in the country were directly connected to
> a JNOS system users on the BBS could not send mail to TCP/IP
> users.

We are working on it.

>
> The problem is NOT and cannot be corrected in the JNOS gateways
> Either the BBS has to be able to send the correct address in
> it's 'TO' field or talk SMTP. I suppose another approach would
> be to 'fake' the 'TO' address in the subject or data field
> but this would be another kludge.

Don't fool around with the pbbs address Doug, figure out how to change it in nos.

>
> I am talking out of my hat but when a user at Prodigy or AOL or
> at a MS mail site sends mail to an INTERNET site the SMPT translation
> is done at there site - in other words it is the BBS's
> responsibilty to translate or in effect talk SMTP to the INTERNET.

The internet gateways have a big problem. They all have a port to the internet and one setup boogy is to make CERTAIN your Prodigy guy NEVER gets onto the ham bands. He can leave a message on the gateway that is then smtp to a ham nos and from there to a pbbs.

>
> PLEASE PLEASE do not start with the wireline stuff - that is
> another issue - INTERNET is a borad term including AMPRNET which
> in MOST areas IS done via amateur radio circuits.
>
> So the discussion is:
>
> Do we modify BBS code in some way to allow this?
> How do you propose that a BBS user send mail to an INTERNET
> DOMAIN name?
>

We do our work and stick nos between the pbbs user and the internet gateway.

> How do we send BBS addresses thru the AMPRNET? Do we
> (can we) create MX records to do this.
>
> This problem IS NOT going to go away - as the TCP/IP community
> grows it will get worse. I am tired of talking about it. You
> know what the problem is - just review the last weeks messages
> on BBSSIG - minus the flames.
>
> Doug
>

It won't go away and should not. It needs to be fixed. Talking about it will not get it done. Semd me your rewrite file Doug..."-)

73 de karl k5di

6. What did I do wrong?

From: JOHN WILCOX <76455.2711@compuserve.com>
Date: 01 Mar 95 04:18:09 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <950301091808_76455.2711_GHN47-1@CompuServe.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-- [From: JOHN WILCOX * EMC.Ver #2.0] --

Got tired of lurking so here it is:

Until recently here is what I ran. What would you have done to improve:
Thruput
Reliability
Ease of operation (SYSOPs point of view)

SITE		PWR	RF	TNC	ANT	COAX
CNTN	A.	25w	Johnson 440mHz	MFJ1200b	6 el 440	LDF4-50
	B.	15w	Motorola	440mHz MFJ1200b	6 el 440	LDF4-50
	C.	25w	ICOM 220mHz	MFJ1200c	15 el 220	9913
	D.	15w	Yaesu 220mHz	MFJ1200b	4 el 220	9913
	E.	35w	Motorola 440mHz	MFJ1200c	6 el 440	9913
	F.	5w	Alinco 144mHz	MFJ1200b	Isopole	9913

Site A was point to point link (no user access) from CNTN to RUMF (backbone)

25 miles						
B					CNTN to MWU	45 miles
C						
CNTN to BGR			100 miles			
D						
CNTN to GRAY			20 miles			
E						
CNTN to AUG			35 miles			

F was the user port.

Above node had all ports connected via NETRIX diode matrix board. 1200 baud on all ports.

RUMF	A.	25w	Johnson 440mHz	MFJ1200b	6 el 440	LDF4-50
	B.	5w	Alinco 144mHz	MFJ1200b	5/8 vert	RG-213
	C.	00.0	none	G8BPQ connection to diode matrix		

Site A was point to point link (no user access) from RUMF to CNTN (backbone)

25 miles						
B						
C						

2.12r

I live in western Maine where part of the Applachian range exists (hilly!).

The sites were:

CNTN	Canton, ME
RUMF	Rumford, ME
MWU	MT. Washington, NH
BGR	Bangor, ME
GRAY	Gray, ME
AUG	Augusta, ME

The CNTN site was an entry point for traffic into and out of the state on VHF. Joe, K1RQG also provided a HF outlet for long-haul from his Bucksport, ME location. This actually worked quite well. The reason it is no longer in existance is simple: CASH. The main contributor to this system was NS1Z (me!). One or two users would slip me \$20 occaisionally but that was it. I think this was a network. It did (apparently) inspire others to connect to it in a similar fashion: ie. a backbone and user port on the node they set up. How would you do it?

73 John/NS1Z
76455.2711 @ compuserve.com
5018901 @ mcimail.com

7. re:new list/what a mess/ad nauseum

From: Fred Peerenboom <peerenbf@dmaphub.dma.org>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 06:42:44 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SV4.3.91.950301062020.12379A-100000@dmaphub.dma.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hmmm, all of the flames were hard to wade through, but with an asbestos suit and a not so sharp eye I personally see a few points in the middle of all of that.

1. Everyones' opinions are only valid in their own area or areas that closely proximate theirs. Reason: there are other areas that have virtually no "ham" (take away the "amateur") radio links making other means a necessity. Just as there are areas (like Hanks) that have nice high un-obstructed hill tops (say "m-o-u-n-t-a-i-n" kids) that provide nice long network paths by radio there are areas where you can't get a signal across the street with a wet string and a 5M volt van de graf generator.

2. Seems that many think their area of the world is the standard for the rest, so the old adage "if we can do it that way, why the heck are you telling me that you can't do it that way?" raises its' ugly little head.

3. and the most important, it seems that to get any real good ideas from anyone or to see how they really think you have to get them mad. Then they speak (type on their keyboard) before they think, and push the send button in glee at having said something that they aren't even sure of what they have said. (maybe we need a feature that says, in stead of, send now? to say "read first, then send now if you really want to")

Just my 2 cents worth. (I know, some will say it ain't worth that much) A little fact to think of for the "ham radio only way" buffs, I have been trying via the normal packet network for over a year to get personal mail into PA from OH, easy, right? Why, we are bordering states. Think again, 3 messages out of over, well over the hundreds mark, (I really hope that those opposed to us hams having all of this nice radio spectrum to play in never read that) that have made it show that the "radio links" need more help. (don't suggest that I drive several hundred miles to install radio links myself just to get the traffic through, I am not a millionair just looking for a place to spend a ton of money) That money thing is probably the biggest reason that many hams are turning to the MA Bell lines. " Joe Ordinaryham" cannot afford the high cost of the highspeed equipment in any more than possibly one site. Many cannot even afford that.

Ham radio is to be "non-commercial" but I see a good reason come out of all of this discussion (read FLAMES, kiddees) for the North American Ham radio ops to start making ham radio equipment in this country and at an affordable price so that more than just the well to do can have a node site, then and only then will the packet network start to expand.

The views above are only mine and mine alone. (only because my wife is not a ham operator)

Fred ke8tq@n8acv#day.oh.usa.noam

8. Re: [BBSSIG:707] re:new list/what a mess/ad nauseum

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 95 13:04:31 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <71292@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I stand by my ground -

How can this be a JNOS rewrite problem when a BBS cannot pass an internet domain address?

wa3dsp%wa3tsw.#epa.pa.usa.noam@wa3dsp.ampr.org

IS A VALID ADDRESS!! and can be originated from anywhere on internet!!!

If the destination user AT that BBS were to reply to this message it would be an invalid address and could not be delivered.

I understand rewrite and have it setup fine here. If you cannot get the mail TO ME I can not handle it!

Certainly a BBS sysop could put in translation for each address

I suppose ?? but if this cannot be done in a general way and is not known at every BBS then it cannot work automatically.

Maybe there are some BBS's that have solved this problem but not in my part of the country.

Doug

9. Non-amateur forwarding

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 95 7:53:32 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503011353.AA192957@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Participants and observers:

So one of the core issues is out and encouraging lots of SIG participation! Don't let the relative heat and high noise level scare you away from an exciting opportunity to develop some sober issues for future discussion.

I think non-amateur forwarding of packet messages is our fabled "crazy aunt in the basement" that Ross Perot frequently mentioned a couple of years back. We all know it's an important issue, but no one wants to deal with it.

The questions now to be asked and rationally discussed, are:

is it still ham radio when messages are forwarded (at some point) by non-amateur means?

is ham radio 'damaged' by non-ham message forwarding?

do we use alternative means to forward messages in the absence of a 100% ham network or where there are gaps in the ham network? short term? long term?

or do we go cold turkey and cease all non-ham alternatives to force building a 100% ham forwarding network?

If you are going to be in St Louis, expect a lively SIG. It is hard to make predictions, but this could be a good topic for discussion at Dayton, too.

If you are stuck participating 'virtually' then stick around. Don't forget that getting too personal tells more about your personality than any licks you think you may be able to get in on the 'other guy.' If any one person gets too obnoxious, expect to have the plug pulled or a personal note from yours truly.

Now that our crazy aunt is out of the basement, we might as well figure out how to deal with her without tearing each other up in the process ;-)

Dave Wolf W05H
BBS SIG Chair

cu in St Louis...

10. Re: [BBSSIG:706] What did I do wrong?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 08:46:38 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503011446.IAA24872@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

John,

There is very little evidence that this is the right answer, but you should be involved with a local club or some organization that has visibility of the cost of the network.

\$20 once in awhile is a nice gesture, but it is only a drop in the bucket.

I'm not trying to pick on you with this, so don't take it wrong. Your situation is very typical and it is the reason the network is so vulnerable today. One person gets hacked off/burned out/insulted

and pulls the plug.

Let me extrapolate this a bit further by saying very many of the problems with BBS and ham networks is primarily a sociocultural. It is social because we all started out being independent then we made it cultural by showing the new people that it has to be done independently.

You need to achieve some critical mass of warm bodies to support the network.

73 Barry wa0rjt

11. Re: [BBSSIG:681] Re: New Mailing List...

From: dkelly@tomcat1.tbe.com (David Kelly)
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 95 09:31:58 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503011531.AA05680@tomcat1.tbe.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank typed:

> Now back to the topic: Is the use of commercial network resources
> good or bad for ham radio, ham radio networking in particular?

The major aspect of amateur radio that allows us to exist is emergency communications. If there is anything the non-ham public thinks of when amateur radio is mentioned, it is emergency communications.

To further the means of emergency communications one needs redundancy, versatility, and flexibility. To dismiss internet/telephone/wired links out of hand as "not amateur radio" is stupid and bigoted.

Today's wired forwarding link for amateur radio might turn into a radio forwarding link for the wired service in an emergency. In emergencies we do what we have to, but if we don't practice then it's even harder.

I agree that we should not become dependent on the wired services, but some fraction of our traffic should travel via wire just for the practice.

73,

--

David Kelly N4HHE, n4hhe@amsat.org, dkelly@nebula.tbe.com

The human mind ordinarily operates at only ten percent of its capacity
-- the rest is overhead for the operating system.

12. Re: [BBSSIG:697] Re: What a MESS!

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 12:35:31 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950301123310.14583B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 28 Feb 1995, Jason A Miller wrote:

> > Sounds like a good idea. if Brian is even around here, I'll buy him
> > Pizza and a beer... However, same offer goes to just about anyone on this
> > sig... {Grin}
> I'm glad to see we've got some amateur radio-type friendship back on this
> group. Thanks guys. It makes me feel good to read e-mail and not be
> immediately put on the offensive :)

I thought it was a good comment with all the flaming going on. And it's true too... So if you drop up to the Bloomsburg area of PA, let me know...

> P.S. -- If any one of you is around Riverton, WY (why you would be I
> don't know) I'll buy you a pizza and a beer too. TNX. -Jason, KB7YWI

Too bad I'm not going on Spring Break, I would stop by... Maybe someday?

Have a great day.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

13. Re: [BBSSIG:691] Re: New Mailing List...

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 95 10:21:40 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503011021.ZM5086@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 8:35pm, David Hess NK3T wrote:

> I live in a rural area, and if it were not for Internet, we would not see
> the outside world of packet. I am one that would like to subscribe to your
> list. One good perk of the list, is Hank will not subscribe, so we can

Don't bet on it ...

> spend lots of time flaming Hank and his code, and we will not have to
> have out systems loaded with his trash.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

14. Re: [BBSSIG:694] Re: What a MESS!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 95 10:23:27 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503011023.ZM5091@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 9:20pm, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

> Well, I'm kinda to the point where I'm tired of the flames... Nothing
> gets worked out when the "fighting" goes on...

Nothing gets worked out unless people are willing to post their
ideas, and defend them. I did, and will.

Would be nice if you would also.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM	

15. Re: [BBSSIG:697] Re: What a MESS!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 95 10:26:35 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503011026.ZM5096@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 11:04pm, Jason A Miller wrote:

> I'm glad to see we've got some amateur radio-type friendship back on this
> group. Thanks guys. It makes me feel good to read e-mail and not be
> immediately put on the offensive :)

Well, I guess it's all my fault for making a strong statement.

Would you care to comment about that statement, or do you think
this group is some sort of mutual admiration society?

What *do* you think about using commercial networks to bypass
the ham radio network we are trying to build?

Is it a good idea or a bad one?
Will it help or harm ham radio?

Or perhaps you just don't care ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

16. Re: [BBSSIG:698] ham radio networks

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 95 10:58:32 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503011058.ZM5108@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Feb 28, 11:15pm, Jack Taylor wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:698] ham radio networks
> The irony I see in this debate is that we are responsible for this shift
> to using commercial means for BBS forwarding. First there was the STA
> that went on for years which limited the number of HF fwding stations.
> This forced non-STA BBSes who wanted to be "players" into resorting either
> to illegal HF forwarding, or to use of the telephone.

Yes, the STA was, in many ways, a political disaster.

However, it (and it's predecessor) did result in several critical changes to part 97, changes that allow us to operate unattended systems at all, on any frequency. Could it have been done better? Speaking as one who was there from the start, and took part in the STA and in all of the meetings, discussions, etc. that resulted in the rule changes, I would say YES, we could have done it better.

However, the use of commercial channels for forwarding began long ago, as a means to bridge the oceans.

Now anyone can operate an HF gateway system, but we are seeing a very large growth in the use of commercial facilities, instead of a very large growth in traffic carried over HF. In my view, if we did carry more traffic on HF, this would spur the development of better techniques for carrying that traffic. Examples that come to mind are better error control, the use of DSP, and new protocols.

> Then, as sysops stridently defended the right of users to submit non-
> amateur related bulletins, the increased fwding traffic over-taxed
> primitive network capacity in many areas of the country. It become
> apparent to many that commercial services is a much cheaper alternative
> than raising several thousands of dollars for local network upgrades.

Agree here also. The incremental cost of moving some data via LL is quite low. However this investment is structured differently than investment in ham radio links. LL forwarding requires capital investment in a cheap modem and cheap computer. LL then has a continuing cost of transport; we have to pay for someone else's radios and wires. Ham radio networks require a greater up front investment, but the carrying cost is probably lower. It would be interesting if someone could do this analysis in more detail, and include the costs of maintenance, plus charges for depreciation. Perhaps the "total cost of ownership" is indeed lower for LL links compared to ham radio links. We don't know.

> Even more ironic is that as the volume of junk mail increased, user
> participation of many boards decreased. Obviously most users are not
> interested in investing in packet gear for the purpose of downloading
> fruit cake receipes from their local ham radio BBS. I suspect that
> many of the network builders have observed the futility in THEM spending
> THEIR time and money upgrading packet radio networks just for the purpose
> of supporting an increased volume of junk mail that goes unread.

We have not seen this happen here. However, our network is not overloaded, and we are still seeing strong growth in both the number of users and the amount of time the users spend "playing with the stuff on the network."

I do not agree with your "obviously" above. As a matter of fact I have 4 or 5 users who do indeed download all the "fruit cake recipes", and are engaged in active email exchanges with other hams who enjoy cooking.

18. Re: [BBSSIG:703] SMTP/BBS gateways

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 95 11:17:57 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503011117.ZM5142@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 1, 1:19am, Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120] wrote:

...

> However for this to work the way things are now EVERY BBS would
> have to have this gateway capability BECAUSE INTERNET/AMPRNET
> hostnames are not valid BBS 'to' field addresses THEREFORE the
> address could not be passed to another non-TCP/IP BBS unless
> a change were made.

...

Or every gateway would need MX records (or their moral equivalent)
to translate between internet mail addresses and bbs net mail
addresses. As Roy pointed out earlier in this discussion, this
can indeed be done.

The original smtp/bbs work was done by a few bbs authors working with
K3MC and W3IWI on the NOS side. It was a quick and dirty bandaid to
allow message interchange between NOS and the bbs net, and should
have been abandoned years ago. It is really the gateway (mail exchanger)
code that should deal with this issue.

What I'm trying to say here is that the gateway lives in both worlds,
and thus requires knowledge of the user's address in each of these
worlds. Systems which live in only one world should only need to
know a user's address in that world. The gateway takes care of
the "internetworking" part of the process.

So my address in the bbs network world is w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam,
and in the internet world it is hank_oredson@mentorg.com and in the
amateur tcp/ip world it is hank@w0rli.ampr.org. Any gateway system
that wishes to route my messages between one world and the other
needs to "know" that these different addresses belong to the same
person, and make the appropriate adjustments when the message is
moved from one world to another.

Do we do this now? Yes, sometimes, and No, not always.

For example: I would prefer that the messages in this group be delivered
to my w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam address, but they are not.

What do I suggest we do?

It will be quite difficult to make significant change to the addressing
semantics or syntax used in either the bbs net world or the internet
world. The internet world has richer addressing.

In the long run I agree with Brian (ka2bqe) that we should move the
bbs net world into the internet addressing scheme. How we accomplish
this is an "interesting" problem. Perhaps we can make the move bit by
bit, by the use of gateway codes at the boundaries of the networks.

I see the problem as more political/organizational than technical.

Let me go way out on a limb and suggest that Roy and Brian (at least)
would agree with me that this is both an important problem to solve,
and not at all difficult on the technical side.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.U.S.A.NOAM	

19. Re: [BBSSIG:718] Re: SMTP/BBS gateways

On Wed, 1 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

[some deleted for space]

Let me amaze one and all and state that I AGREED totally with Hank in this message and the last one [a dealy hush falls over the crowd].

This IS something that the original xNOS code "band-aid"ed. There has been a way for quite some time to do ONE end of the fix. You CAN take an incoming message, look at the Internet mail destination, and place it into a area that gets translated to a PBBS mailing address when it gets forwarded.

But the FROM address was still an Internet address.

Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

20. Re: [BBSSIG:718] Re: SMTP/BBS gateways

On Wed, 1 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

```
> On Mar 1, 1:19am, Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120] wrote:
>
> Lots removed.....
```

Yes and NOS has the tools I believe to bridge from internet to packet bbs address. I laugh at my telephone bbs Fido network because they have added an internet sounding name to each Fido node. I am, I think 1:305/111@fido.org....but a internet connected bbs it is not.

Page 570

```

> bit, by the use of gateway codes at the boundaries of the networks.
>
> I see the problem as more political/organizational than technical.

    I see it as un-necessary Hank. Let me and a few other tcp/ip hams
work on this in the total ham-world, and if it works then move it to the
internet via a gateway. No hurry. We are now forwarding over the internet
and this will be just another way to do it.

>
> Let me go way out on a limb and suggest that Roy and Brian (at least)
> would agree with me that this is both an important problem to solve,
> and not at all difficult on the technical side.
>
> ... Hank
>
>
>
> --
>
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics      Library Operations
> Internet      : hank_oredson@mentorg.com  "Parts 'R Us!"
> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM
>

    I hope they agree with me Hank. Then very little needs doing,
technical or otherwise. Just use "rewrite" for what it was designed for.
And make all the tcp guys use w5xyz.ampr.org. The tendency is to get lazy
and send smtp's as w5xyz@w5xyz and this is exactly part of
w5xyz@w5xyz.nm.usa.noam...and "rewrite" can't do the proper change to get
it from smtp to pbbs form.

```

```

*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****

```

21. Re: [BBSSIG:719] Re: SMTP/BBS gateways

```

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 15:40:38 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950301153626.7195B-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

On Wed, 1 Mar 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

```

> On Wed, 1 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:
>
> > What I'm trying to say here is that the gateway lives in both worlds,
> > and thus requires knowledge of the user's address in each of these
> > worlds. Systems which live in only one world should only need to
> > know a users' address in that world. The gateway takes care of
> > the "internetworking" part of the process.
>
> [some deleted for space]
>
> > Let me go way out on a limb and suggest that Roy and Brian (at least)
> > would agree with me that this is both an important problem to solve,
> > and not at all difficult on the technical side.
>
> Let me amaze one and all and state that I AGREED totally with Hank in
> this message and the last one [a dealy hush falls over the crowd].
>
> And this is NOT one of those "but,..." situations, either. Hank and I
> agree in technical issues and implimentation more times than not.
>
> This IS something that the original xNOS code "band-aid"ed. There has
> been a way for quite some time to do ONE end of the fix. You CAN take an
> incoming message, look at the Internet mail destination, and place it
> into a area that gets translated to a PBBS mailing address when it gets
> forwarded.
>
>

```

```
> But the FROM address was still an Internet address.
>
> I've added a TRANSLATION lookup to TNOS 1.11 that handles the FROM
> address real well. There is STILL room for improvement in the original
> way that the TO address is handled, but it is getting closer.
```

```
clap,clap,clap,clap,"brovo",clap...:-)
```

I think we told Hank the same thing...and I have to delete your brag line because I directed everyone here to use msoffice pro software, and I'm not sorry.

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
* *
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
* *
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
* *
*****
```

22. Re: [BBSSIG:701] Re: What a MESS!

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 19:29:28 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503012329.AA18316@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Without mentioning any names...I find it outrageous that TAPR or this SIG should be slammed because of the comments (flames) of a few participants.

As round after round was fired back & forth I was tempted to make comment myself but instead sent the flame messages to the Trash Can. I wish some of the participants had done so as well. State your opinions, agree to disagree as necessary but keep it to a civil level of discussion or drop it.

73 - Ron
ve1aic

23. RE: [BBSSIG:704] Re: AA4RE mailing list? (was re: forward list)

From: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 95 17:21:00 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <2F54F43D@arrl.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>

--

> Hello I'm Interested in this, too. Only ONE other system in my area
> uses AA4RE BBS WB3JOE in PA and myself, KB2HJC in #SNJ.NJ
>
> so any info Helpful for lists, etc
>

```
*****
> Amprnet: KB2HJC@NX2B.AMPR.ORG AX.25: KB2HJC@WA2NDV.NY.USA.NOAM
> Email: COMPUSERVE 75550,130 Internet: 75550.130@compuserve.com
> Voice: 145.11 Rpt PL 3B Phone: Being Changed
> TCP/IP-Netrom: [44.65.32.24] BBSHJC:KB2HJC-8
>
*****
```

Welcome, but, say, didn't see it anyplace in the header or the sig...wotz yer NAME, OM?

--73 de BB

Brian Battles, WS10 "The World's Foremost Authority"
Features Editor, QST Magazine, ARRL HQ, Newington, CT USA
Tel 203-666-1541, fax 203-665-7531; e-mail bbattles@arrl.org
Amateur packet radio: WS10@W1EDH.CT.USA.NOAM (AX.25)
ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org (TCP/IP)

- - - - -
ALL COMMENTS ARE MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL REMARKS AND
IN NO WAY CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL ARRL VIEWS OR POLICY.

24. Re: [BBSSIG:715] Re: What a MESS!

From: schiers@ibm.net
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 95 17:11:48
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503020151.AA0075@localhost>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>What *do* you think about using commercial networks to bypass
>the ham radio network we are trying to build?

I think it is going to be demand driven, without respect to what either side thinks about it, i.e., if in one's own area there is not a robust network (for whatever reason), and internet is a more cost-effective and efficient means to accomplish data provision to the local area packeteers, it will thrive. If not, it won't. If internet accounts ever become competitive, convenient and as much fun as a radio, terminal/computer and tnc, then amateur packet radio as we know it, will disappear into the "marginal" aspects of our hobby, much as AM did. So it really isn't a matter so much of what anyone wants, or even what one thinks about the issue, but rather, what do the paying participants want. Everyone is paying for something.

I'm not sure I understand the controversy. This is a hobby. Interests vary. Some people think internet is an enjoyable, interesting and effective augmentation to their bbs system and are willing to do the work and pay the costs. More power to them. (And there is nothing I can do to stop them, no matter what I think about their efforts anyway).

>Is it a good idea or a bad one?

This depends on what outcome one is invested in. Is the goal to force RF networking only? Is the goal to provide the maximum number of choices or resources to the local bbs user? Interesting questions for discussion, but the base question itself is unanswerable without pre-defining what outcomes are desired.

>Will it help or harm ham radio?

Again, this depends on the goals. One would need to develop a hierarchy of goals and pick among those which conflict. In other words, the question is too simply put. Until we can answer some of the following questions, and which of them is more important than the other, answering the quoted question is like shooting in the dark.

1. Are we trying to serve users or amuse ourselves? (This is a serious question...not a sarcastic remark).

If we are doing our bbs'ing/networking out of our own technical interest and benefits accrue to the users only incidental to our efforts, then one course of action might be preferable (for us) over another. If we are purely service oriented, then vice versa.

2. Does our implementation or expression of our own interests/amusements help or hinder any part of the bbs > user continuum?

If, due to geographical, population, economic or other impediments, an RF network is ineffective, and we are only interested in our own RF network, then our goals might speak to making every effort to improve the RF network and not even consider wormhole/internet solutions, nor the impact on potential bbs users.

However, under the same scenario of limitations, if the goal is user resource oriented, LL forwarding could benefit the hobby by providing more information to the local bbs users. If the choice really came down to many, many fewer messages that only came via RF links or a large variety of high volume traffic that came via LL, I wonder what the local bbs user would prefer. I am willing to bet the latter, but that is just pure opinion. This is a case of the market, i.e., demand, controlling which method is chosen.

Do high quality services benefit ham radio, even if not purely end to end amateur based?

More importantly, does it even matter what we think about what will and will not help or hinder amateur radio if the real answer is that what happens will be market driven, and not by personality, authority, or simple preference of a small number of individuals?

Technology is like the genie out of the bottle. There is little likelihood of getting him back in. Internet is here. It will be used if it is seen as being functional and cost effective by those who pay the bills to provide it. Whether it is good or bad for ham radio is an interesting exercise (not, however a trivial one), but the answer will be unlikely to impact the continued reliance on land line networks to augment, if not replace RF links. I am not trying to be pro or con, merely realistic. What I want

doesn't change a thing.

Robert "hasan" Schiers N0AN
RR 2, BOX 71, Ames, IA 50010

25. BBS<>TCP/IP

From: wa3dsp@morse.wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.08.120])
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 95 22:04:22 GMT
To: bbssig%tapr.org@wa3dsp.ampr.org
Message-ID: <1357@morse.wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Rewrite files were not intended to substitute for domain lookup files. That is a general or rather general address substitution could go in a rewrite file but adding a multitude of specific substitutions is not a good thing.

JNOS (NOS) as it NOW exists gives a great deal of latitude in setting up specific forward situations. Let me reiterate AGAIN the problem is NOT getting JNOS (as a BBS gateway) to forward mail TO a BBS. If a BBS address comes in over TCP/IP it can extract the BBS portion and happily forward it onto the proper BBS as defined in it's BBS forward table.

Let's take a real example and perhaps those that say it does work now in their areas can tell me how. Suppose VK1XYZ came into my TCP/IP system with SMTP mail. Knowing that I had an entry onto the BBS circuit in Philadelphia. He would have to have predetermined this either from being told OR in responding to mail. The ham he wants to send mail to is W3ZZZ on a Philadelphia area BBS with the call WB3JOE. So this is how his mail would be addressed:

w3zzz%wb3joe.#epa.pa.usa.noam@wa3dsp.ampr.org

The FROM or REPLY address would be vk1xyz@vk1xyz.ampr.org

My JNOS system would (actual example) formulate the 'TO' address - w3zzz%wb3joe.#epa.pa.usa.noam - and would send this message with a valid BBS 'TO' address to the BBS wa3tsw.#epa.pa.usa.noam - a closeby BBS that has knowledge of how to forward BBS traffic in the Philadelphia area. So the message would arrive at it's intended destination in W3ZZZ's mailbox. Later W3ZZZ logs into the BBS and reads his mail from VK1 land BUT without prior arrangement he would have no way of responding because his BBS and others along the path back to the TCP/IP gateway don't know anything about the address vk1xyz@vk1xyz.ampr.org.

Unlike TCP/IP the ability is not there for the BBS user to address BBS mail directly to my TCP/IP gateway with the proper 'TO' address - I.E.

vk1xyz%vk1xyz.ampr.org@wa3dsp.ampr.org

The BBS machine HE IS AT has to know how to route 'ampr.org'. Therefore every BBS in the local matrix has to know how to do this since there is no absolute predefined way the BBS message may travel.

Sure a BBS sysop and a JNOS sysop could get together and using translations at both effect a somewhat workable solution but it would not always be guaranteed to work.

And heaven forbid what if the return address were not 'ampr.org' but rather an address in the vast INTERNET wasteland - like bbssig@tapr.org!

So how can anything be done in JNOS or any other gateway if the BBS circuit cannot route the mail TO it. I am still trying to get an answer to this???

Get the mail to me and I will get it there - unattended - but if you can't get it to me I can't send it on.

Doug

26. Re: [BBSSIG:716] Re: ham radio networks

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.mpcs.com>
Date: Wed, 1 Mar 1995 17:19:23 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503012219.RAA00259@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank Oredson wrote:

>
> > Until the bbs sysop community recognizes that traffic quantity has little
> > relationship to traffic quality, commercial services will play an
> > increasing role in forwarding.
>
> There is a bit of a problem with this concept of "traffic quality".
> Myself, I'd get the NTS traffic off the network first, then get rid
> of most of the @ AMSAT traffic, then remove all the 7plus messages.

Down here, NTS is pretty much off the network. Why? The network don't work
for NTS. We never recovered from the FBB NTS problems.

Howie

--
Howard Goldstein
InfoMotion, Inc.
hg@n2wx.mpcs.com
<http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx>

27. Re: Error Condition Re: unsubscribe bbssig

From: MAK5656@delphi.com
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 1995 23:17:09 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <01HNN0QY0YUA8Y5N9K@delphi.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

No, it was intentional. Please delete me from this mailing list. The volume
of material is just too darn much for me to keep up with....

Again, this is NOT an error.

Thanks

Mike/kf5px

28. What Happened!??

From: kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 95 13:33:24 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <24475@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello

Name is Mike KB2HJC in NJ and I USED to like BBSSIG because it was informative
and i used to save the msgs for future reference BUT NOW ----

ALL it is comments abt LISTS BACK and FORTH I get BBSSIG VIA NNTP
Thanks to the Folks w Gateways etc ESP WA3DSP Thanks for the
Use of Your SYSTEM !

But Im ready to drop BBSSIG it isnt abt HOW to Improve or Use Our BBS systems
its opinions of WHY and WHY NOT Past 20 or so msgs are OLD Real Quick

to Hank W0RLI Ive respected u and your work on RLI BBS software
and used it at one time
But seeing the msgs you have sent thats on shaky ground
Im one person BUT Others here in SNJ have read ur Msgs and say the same

73 ONLY Msg Ill send on this topic

Repls -- to me Personally Im dropping BBSSIG til it improves

Amprnet: KB2HJC@NX2B.AMPR.ORG AX.25: KB2HJC@WA2NDV.NY.USA.NOAM
Email: COMPUSERVE 75550.130 Internet: 75550.130@compuserve.com
Voice: 145.110 Rpt. PL 3B Phone: Being Changed
TCP/IP-Netrom: [44.65.32.24] BBSHJC:KB2HJC-8

29. IP gateways/conspiracy

From: wb8wka@wb8wka.ampr.org (Jeff King)
Date: Thu, 02 Mar 95 00:46:00 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Cc: ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu
Message-ID: <10161@wb8wka.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On 28 Feb 1995 ron@chaos.eng.wayne.edu (Ron Atkinson) said:

>Ham radio is second, computer experimenter is first. Telephone links
>are better, so I'll use them.

OK, that likely explains why your internet gateways RF port has
been disfunctional for so long. A ham radio internet gateway
first and foremost **must** have RF connectivity. Indeed, thats why
they call it a gateway. It can supplement the existing over the
air network, but must **never** replace it.

Indeed, at a recent SouthEast Michigan Networking meeting, the
offer was made to four AX.25 bbs sysops (FBB/MSYS) to use the local
Ann Arbor internet gateway for a wormhole (axip) for there forwarding.
While they were interested, there first choice was the existing VHF/UHF
networks, then HF and then finally when all else fails they would
consider the internet gateway. Basically, its just the magic of
radio that I think attracts them to the hobby and they see it as
self defeating to ultimately use a landline based network.

Oh, and me? Why do I run a internet gateway? Well, mostly because
I can do cool things with it via radio. I'm working on a
asymetrical high speed RF data link and just about the only way I can
prove the concept is with a internet gateway.

>usually give it out too. In the past few years though the "Amateur"
>in amateur radio has shown more and more and people have constantly
>been stabbing me in the back from all around and trying to cause
>trouble for me and my friends. Then people get mad at me when I don't
>give out some code or programs or invite someone to a closed meeting,
>don't tell them how I do something, or some other minor detail.

Since were on the subject of conspiracies, I was wondering, do you
feel there was a second gunman on the Grassy Knoll, or do you feel
it was a lone gunman at the Dallas Book Repository?

Thanks, Jeff in Farmington MI (wow, even via radio too!)
SMTP - wb8wka@wb8wka.ampr.org [44.102.16.16] | Operating
Internet - wb8wka@merit.edu , jking@merit.edu | on the edge
AX25 - wb8wka@wu8c.#SEMI.MI.USA.NOAM | of Chaos

30. Packet BBS and the telephone

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 11:35:48 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950302110516.9735A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank, WØRLI said he wanted a discussion on whether the Hams with
a BBS should use OTHER means than packet radio to connect with other BBS
or Ham users. Here is my input on using a telephone modem.

I know of Hams in cities that for some reason would rather use a
Ham BBS over the telephone. Often they are guys living right under the
hill with the node and can't hit it with less than 50 watts. Many sysops
allow this mode and even require that remote sysops use this mode to do
their work.

And I know a bunch that use the telephone to forward mail and
bulletins. The reason for this is the oldest insentive in mankind. It is
called Money. Have you priced a 14,400 bit/sec modem at Sam's? They are
down to \$50.00 and you can move a bunch of traffic in just a few minutes
with one of these.

Look at the Money aspect. You spend 50-100 dollars on a fast
modem. The F6FBB software comes with a setup for a modem that works just
fine. The full cost is spread over time. I have a data telephone at home
that costs \$18/month. I send mail all over the country and world on the
Fido Network and long distance charges are about \$20.00/month on average.

On an annual basis you spend \$38 times 12 is \$456.00. IF you can
afford this cost, it is THE best way to do it. No trips to the mountain
and lightning damaged equipment. No expensive radios and TVI. It just
works and works and works. I paid \$28,000 in taxes this year. I can
afford to pay the phone company 500 bucks over a whole year. It is CHEAP!

There is no comparison to Ham Radio. I invested \$500 in TNC's and \$400.00 on 9600 baud modems and \$300 on coax and \$350 on connectors and ... and it goes on and on. We are going to pay \$150/year to the BLM for using their mountain. The packet radio system is just a lot more expensive up front and over time than a telephone. I use my Jeep for other things than getting onto the mountains, but it is those trips that cost tires and loads of time.

So except for the argument that it ain't Ham Radio, there is no question that the telephone is cheaper than Ham Radio. For a growing number of Hams that are growing old, NOT going to the mountain to climb a tower and fix the antenna is attractive.

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

31. Re: [BBSSIG:730] Packet BBS and the telephone

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 95 11:27:18 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503021127.ZM8182@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 2, 12:41pm, Klarsen wrote:

<deletia>

> So except for the argument that it ain't Ham Radio, there is no
> question that the telephone is cheaper than Ham Radio. For a growing
> number of Hams that are growing old, NOT going to the mountain to climb a
> tower and fix the antenna is attractive.

This is the point I've been trying to raise.

If indeed ham radio networking is dead (or at least mortally ill),
and hams will move to commercial networking transport except for
those few who want to "play radio" then we have lost.

No need for a radio or a license to use the telephone.

Simple to create a newsgroup or mail exploder and let everyone
communicate that way, and cheaper too! No radios to maintain,
no hassles with the politics of frequency coordination, no trips
up the mountain during a blizzard.

Also no alternative to the commercial networks if they every happen
to stop working. Why do I say this? If the pressure is not there
to create the radio networks, they will not be created.

If we (those of us who are the leaders / innovators) decide to go
the route of commercial networking, then everyone else will follow us.
The radio networks will not get built.

Of course hams (or whatever we want to call that community of folk
who decide to chat in the "ham" groups/lists on the commercial networks)
will be much better off, since they can take part in this new "hobby"
for a lot less cost and investment in time. No hazard of frost bite.

Of course there will also be no need for TAPR.

Some of us will probably return to previous interests (in my case
vhf/uhf dxing and contests), others will allow their licenses to
expire and not bother to renew; no need for a license on the commercial
networks.

Away on a business trip for the next week or so, but I'll be back ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

32. Re: [BBSSIG:726] Re: ham radio networks

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 16:00:03 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503022200.QAA00492@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Hank Oredson wrote:
> >
> > > Until the bbs sysop community recognizes that traffic quantity has little
> > > relationship to traffic quality, commercial services will play an
> > > increasing role in forwarding.
> >
> > There is a bit of a problem with this concept of "traffic quality".
> > Myself, I'd get the NTS traffic off the network first, then get rid
> > of most of the @ AMSAT traffic, then remove all the 7plus messages.
>

Hank,
D

There is absolutely no question that the HAM network is falling apart because of message content. Hams who are technically competent and have installed nodes view the vast majority of BBS traffic as junk.

Individuals who pay for equipment and make their time available to install and maintain nodes are completely justified in making their own value judgement of the traffic that passes through their station.

The question we should be addressing is: given the bandwidth we have available, what is the best use?

This does not mean we shouldn't be increasing the bandwidth, it says we should be managing what we have TODAY. So far I have seen NO willingness to address this issue.

Barry

33. Re: [BBSSIG:731] Re: Packet BBS and the telephone

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 16:19:10 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503022219.QAA00546@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank wrote:

>
> If indeed ham radio networking is dead (or at least mortally ill),
> and hams will move to commercial networking transport except for
> those few who want to "play radio" then we have lost.
>
> No need for a radio or a license to use the telephone.
>
>

Then all hams will give up their 2 meter rigs and use cell phones.
CW will be extinct any day now.
ATT gives you a private conversation, not like 75 meter phoneband in the evening.

Hank,
it just ain't so. There continue to be people interested in playing with radios. It is that simple. Some folks want to play with radios and computers. You do. I do. Nearly everyone on this SIG does.

Barry

34. Re: [BBSSIG:731] Re: Packet BBS and the telephone

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 95 13:22:02 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503022226.QAA29163@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank and Karl make a good case for abandoning amateur packet radio in favour of the internet! By switching, so MANY problems are solved. We no longer have to look forward to see what the next pbbs software version will bring since there's no longer a need for the pbbs worldwide network. All the news and information tailored to accomodate every individual subscriber is available on the internet. Sysops can shut down their stations and no longer fear about message content. There are no language prohibitions for those that need the support of 4-letter words, MUCH better than ham radio!

Golly, I appreciate Hank and Karl sharing their insight with us as I now see with great clarity the vision that's shining out of my modem! Anyone wanna buy some TNC's, radios, and associated node stack items?

73 de Jack

35. Re: [BBSSIG:734] Re: Packet BBS and the telephone

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 95 15:40:04 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503021540.ZM9738@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 2, 4:37pm, Jack Taylor wrote:

> Golly, I appreciate Hank and Karl sharing their insight with us as I now
> see with great clarity the vision that's shining out of my modem! Anyone
> wanna buy some TNC's, radios, and associated node stack items?

Naw, who would want those?
But if you have a couple fast modems available ...

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.U.S.A.NOAM	

36. Re: [BBSSIG:732] Re: ham radio networks

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 95 15:53:41 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503021553.ZM9936@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 2, 4:06pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:732] Re: ham radio networks
>
> > Hank Oredson wrote:
> > >
> > > > Until the bbs sysop community recognizes that traffic quantity has
little
> > > > relationship to traffic quality, commercial services will play an
> > > > increasing role in forwarding.
> > >
> > > There is a bit of a problem with this concept of "traffic quality".
> > > Myself, I'd get the NTS traffic off the network first, then get rid
> > > of most of the @ AMSAT traffic, then remove all the 7plus messages.
> >
>
> Hank,
> D
> There is absolutely no question that the HAM network is falling apart
> because of message content. Hams who are technically competent and
> have installed nodes view the vast majority of BBS traffic as junk.

If I read this correctly, you are saying that your network is overloaded.
A portion of our network has just become overloaded because it
broke and is not being replaced: there is no reason to replace it
because it has been bypassed by use of the LL.

> Individuals who pay for equipment and make their time available to
> install and maintain nodes are completely justified in making their
> own value judgement of the traffic that passes through their station.

Certainly they are. They can censor anything they wish: it is their
equipment. And when they act like this, others will stop using that
network, and will resort to other means to move traffic; alternate

ham networks, or the LL.

> The question we should be addressing is: given the bandwidth we have
> available, what is the best use?

Personally, I don't think I could make that choice.
"One person's junk mail is another's valuable information."

> This does not mean we shouldn't be increasing the bandwidth, it says
> we should be managing what we have TODAY. So far I have seen NO
> willingness to address this issue.

Perhaps because there are only two ways to limit access, and both
are unacceptable: 1) censorship ("My packets are more important
than yours, so get yours off my network."; 2) Congestive failure
("Yeah it's slow because it can't handle all this stuff at once.")

Congestive failure can be solved by proper network design and tuning,
so that everyone gets equally poor response. Censorship cannot be solved.

Once the LL bandaids are in place, 2) is solved, 1) is solved
but we no longer need a ham radio network ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM	

37. Re: [BBSSIG:715] Re: What a MESS!

From: Jason A Miller <miller14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 17:23:22 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SCO.3.91.950302171049.4953A-100000@odi.cwc.whecn.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 1 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> Well, I guess it's all my fault for making a strong statement.
>
> Would you care to comment about that statement, or do you think
> this group is some sort of mutual admiration society?
>

I was simply trying to emphasize that we have been doing far too much
flaming on this SIG. I just know that when I sit down and read a
message, if I read it and it makes me think "Wow, I want to talk to this
guy on the radio" it's a good message. If it puts me on the offensive
then I get fairly sure it puts other people on the offensive too.

I would like to know one thing Hank. I have been seeing that while
everyone is trying to return to the topic at hand, you respond to every
single message that someone sends in a negative way!

I didn't write my message to demean you or the SIG at all. I wrote it to
emphasize that we are grown adults (and amateurs besides) and we should
ALL be discussing topics in a mature friendly manner.

> What *do* you think about using commercial networks to bypass
> the ham radio network we are trying to build?
>

I think it's a really good idea. Internet is full of amateur-related
topics, newgroups, FTP sites, etc and personally I think that forwarding
via commercial services would add to the excitement of the hobby. I am
trying to set up a NOS system at my home and I think that if I ever get
it running, it might be kind of exciting to see how packet <--> Internet
forwarding is set up and to do it myself.

> Is it a good idea or a bad one?
> Will it help or harm ham radio?
>

This is a hobby with a BUNCH of sub-hobbies integrated into it. I don't
see how Internet could hurt the hobby at all. We are not attempting to
flush ham radio AX.25 forwarding. We are, however, attempting to SPEED

UP AX.25 forwarding across the country. Internet being the fastest medium we have, I think it's an excellent idea that deserves more discussion and experimentation.

> Or perhaps you just don't care ...

Not likely, Hank.

>>> Jason A Miller, KB7YWI

miller14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu

38. Re: [BBSSIG:737] Re: What a MESS!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 95 16:56:08 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503021656.ZM9986@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 2, 6:35pm, Jason A Miller wrote:

> I didn't write my message to demean you or the SIG at all. I wrote it to
> emphasize that we are grown adults (and amateurs besides) and we should
> ALL be discussing topics in a mature friendly manner.

Nor did I suggest that you did write it to demean anyone or anything.

However, I'd prefer to discuss the ideas presented rather than the form and style of the presentation, and I'm willing to dig down through the form and style to attempt to understand the ideas.

Each reader makes their own assumptions about these form and style issues. I find it interesting that some folks think that anything I've said (beyond the first "flame" message, which was clearly marked as such) is anything but an attempt to present some ideas. It's not. I'm simply trying to get some ideas out and discussed.

> > What *do* you think about using commercial networks to bypass
> > the ham radio network we are trying to build?
> >
> I think it's a really good idea. Internet is full of amateur-related
> topics, newgroups, FTP sites, etc and personally I think that forwarding
> via commercial services would add to the excitement of the hobby. I am
> trying to set up a NOS system at my home and I think that if I ever get
> it running, it might be kind of exciting to see how packet <--> Internet
> forwarding is set up and to do it myself.

The key word in my comment above was "bypass". i.e. use commercial services INSTEAD of ham radio networks - not IN ADDITION TO ham radio.

I've never argued with using commercial services IN ADDITION TO the ham radio network. I don't do it myself, but that's my choice. The \$100 per month cost of a commercial network link (or the long distance charges for LL forwarding) go into better tncs/radios/antennas/etc.

>
> > Is it a good idea or a bad one?
> > Will it help or harm ham radio?
> >
>
> This is a hobby with a BUNCH of sub-hobbies integrated into it. I don't
> see how Internet could hurt the hobby at all. We are not attempting to
> flush ham radio AX.25 forwarding. We are, however, attempting to SPEED
> UP AX.25 forwarding across the country. Internet being the fastest
> medium we have, I think it's an excellent idea that deserves more
> discussion and experimentation.

I'll try again to explain how it can hurt: If there is no pressure to construct ham radio networks (because using the internet or any other commercial service is better/cheaper/simpler) then the ham radio network does not get constructed. The folks who MIGHT help build network (if there was "no choice") will take the easier way out and spend their time/money on commercial networks instead. Initially I backed this up with observations from the Southern Oregon and Seattle area networks. Those networks have (to one extent or another) been bypassed by hams using commercial networks. Those networks are falling apart, are poorly connected to their neighbors, and are, in a word, in disrepair. As more and more of their traffic has flowed over commercial links, the ham radio networks have deteriorated.

So my initial point was a simple one: that this group should focus it's discussion on how to grow the ham radio network, and that growing the

... Hank

--

39. Re: [BBSSIG:731] Re: Packet BBS and the telephone

From: "Bill Barnes, NJ3IX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 20:12:46 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950302200935.8505A-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 2 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

- > no hassles with the politics of frequency coordination, no trips
- > up the mountain during a blizzard.

The most fun I've ever had was two trips up to a repeater site in a snow storm, or the day after. We basically, somehow amazingly got the truck up the mountain, and then did the "bobsled" our way down. It was lots of fun. Plus have you ever notice that if you put an antenna up in miserable weather, it seems to work better and needs less servicing? To me, thats alot of the fun of Amateur Radio.

```

73, de Bill, N3JIX
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                               * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu               * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam          *
*****

```

40. Re: [BBSSIG:734] Re: Packet BBS and the telephone

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 20:17:43 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950302201418.8505B-100000@planetx>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 2 Mar 1995, Jack Taylor wrote:

```
> Golly, I appreciate Hank and Karl sharing their insight with us as I now
> see with great clairity the vision that's shining out of my modem!  Anyone
> wanna buy some TNC's, radios, and associated node stack items?
```

I'll tell you what Jack, I'll pay shipping for all the stuff you have, and I'll take it all and build a network here. {Grin}

After all, I'm strange because I don't have a modem in my PBBS machine, and can't use that to forward mail. my UHF link seems down (Must be a storm coming), and it only slightly bothers me... Gee, I am strange, because I didn't unplug everything and configure the slip line...

Of course, it could be this darn PA water up here that...

{Grin}

```

73, de Bill, N3JIX
*****
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX                               * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet:  wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu             * Bloomsburg, Pa      *
* Packet   :  n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam        *
*****

```

41. Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: Robert <w5robert@blkbox.COM>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 19:24:06 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503021924.aa26420@blkbox.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

As a fond user of a local packet BBS, a finding on my part:
The local packet BBS has a telephone user interface. I sign on
at 14.4 K and haven't done a 1200 baud VHF radio connect to the BBS
in probably two years.... If I had to wade through 1200 baud,
and a busy frequency - I would wait til fixed or find another packet BBS
with a phone interface.

--

73 Robert WB5CRG w5robert@blkbox.com

42. Re: [BBSSIG:741] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 95 18:26:37 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503021826.ZM10139@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 2, 7:38pm, Robert wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:741] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!
> As a fond user of a local packet BBS, a finding on my part:
> The local packet BBS has a telephone user interface. I sign on
> at 14.4 K and haven't done a 1200 baud VHF radio connect to the BBS
> in probably two years.... If I had to wade through 1200 baud,
> and a busy frequency - I would wait til fixed or find another packet BBS
> with a phone interface.

I'm very confused by your first sentence.

First you say you use a packet bbs, and then you say that you
don't use a packet bbs, but use a dial-up bbs.

Your comments help to prove my point.

That 9600 or 56k baud user link just never gets built:
the LL is so much simpler and cheaper ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

43. Re: [BBSSIG:741] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Date: Fri, 03 Mar 95 02:29:14 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <72063@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Let the record show that in a number of attempts of presenting
what I thought was a logically put forward description of a
real problem that exists now in forwarding mail between BBS's
and TCP/IP systems I got no or very little (and vague) response
from this SIG.

Instead a totally ridiculous tirade of how network should route
traffic goes on. A discussion that although gets the blood pressure
of both sides elevated will never be resolved because both sides
will continue to do things as they have.

So the real issues just get glossed over with this smoke screen.

By the way I always wondered with all this discussion - is
tapr.org radio connected? How do all these BBS sysops that are
suppose to be on here get this SIG and respond to it? I
distribute it NNTP (radio) locally because it is apparently not
available via amateur BBS feeds here. If all you radio nuts
want to be true you would disconnect from here as this is an

Doug

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 20:28:46 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503202031.A7647-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

much deleted...

>

>

>

But, at the end of the year, what have you done to improve the network? Handling traffic over the telephone lines doesn't do a thing to cause the radio networks to be improved. On the contrary, you lighten the load on the radio network, decreasing the need to improve it. This is the core of what Hank and others have been saying, and they are right. Hey, Hank has come out with strange ideas the last couple of years, but he is right on this one, in my opinion.

Gary

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 21:43:13 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950302213434.11910B-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> On Mar 2, 7:38pm, Robert wrote:

> > Subject: [BBSSIG:741] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

> > As a fond user of a local packet BBS, a finding on my part:

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

```
> > at 14.4 K and haven't done a 1200 baud VHF radio connect to the BBS
```

```
> > in probably two years....  If I had to wade through 1200 baud,
> > and a busy frequency - I would wait til fixed or find another packet BBS
> > with a phone interface.
```

>

> I'm very confused by your first sentence.

Then go to bed Hank. What Robert said was crystal clear. He prefers to use a 14.4 k link over a crowded 1200 baud link. He is SMART.

>

```
> First you say you use a packet bbs, and then you say that you
> don't use a packet bbs, but use a dial-up bbs.
```

Because your software does not support a telephone modem does not mean all pbbs software is that way.

>

> Your comments help to prove my point.

>

```
> That 9600 or 56k baud user link just never gets built:
```

```
> the LL is so much simpler and cheaper ...
```

>

>

```
> ... Hank
```

 $\succ$

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>
> --
>
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
> Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM
>

Hank your now the problem. You are commenting on every comment and just, at best re-telling us your position. Anyone who has read this SIG for the past 6 months knows your position. How about letting those of us that enjoy many modes of Ham Radio talk about it and you just watch. I at this point will not comment any more on your inputs.

73 de karl k5di

46. Re: [BBSSIG:744] Re: Packet BBS and the telephone

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 22:00:18 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950302214632.11910C-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 2 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>
>
> On Thu, 2 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:
>
> much deleted...
> >
> > So except for the argument that it ain't Ham Radio, there is no
> > question that the telephone is cheaper than Ham Radio. For a growing
> > number of Hams that are growing old, NOT going to the mountain to climb a
> > tower and fix the antenna is attractive.
> >
> >
> > * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
>
> But, at the end of the year, what have you done to improve the network?

My question to you Gary is: are you a packet BBS sysop? What do you do if a node at 13,000 feet goes bad in winter? To hear Hank and you talk the sysop should just sit tight and tell his users that nothing will go or come for 3-5 months so just relax and watch more TV. If you think that then your not a sysop.

In past years I have MAILED DISKS to wb7t1s and he sent me my mail the same way. About a week delay but the mail did get through. That is what you do if there is NO OTHER WAY.

But now wb7t1s and I have the internet and can send mail to each other that way. Better cuzz it only is a 1 day delay...

NSIST is a packet BBS in Carlsbad, NM. He is cut off from all other ham nodes because a node is down. So he doesn't have Internet but he does have a telephone modem. We keep the mail flowing this way.

So you Gary and Hank call this a blow to Ham Radio. I disagree. I call THIS Ham Radio!

> Handling traffic over the telephone lines doesn't do a thing to cause the
> radio networks to be improved. On the contrary, you lighten the load on
> the radio network, decreasing the need to improve it. This is the core
> of what Hank and others have been saying, and they are right. Hey, Hank
> has come out with strange ideas the last couple of years, but he is right
> on this one, in my opinion.
>
> Gary
>

I feel your dead wrong Gary. Read above and see if you don't agree. And also re-read what I said about using the telephone. If it's not the truth then say so.

* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *

```

*
*   The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM      Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet
*   Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C           Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12
*
*   Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory
*
*****

```

47. Re: [BBSSIG:746] Re: Packet BBS and the telephone

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
 Date: Thu, 2 Mar 1995 23:42:04 -0700 (MST)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503022304.A11580-0100000@hannibal>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 2 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:

```

>
>
> On Thu, 2 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
>
> >
> >
> > On Thu, 2 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:
> >
> > much deleted...
> >
> > > So except for the argument that it ain't Ham Radio, there is no
> > > question that the telephone is cheaper than Ham Radio. For a growing
> > > number of Hams that are growing old, NOT going to the mountain to climb a
> > > tower and fix the antenna is attractive.
> > >
> > >
> > > * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
> > >
> > But, at the end of the year, what have you done to improve the network?
>
> My question to you Gary is: are you a packet BBS sysop? What do
> you do if a node at 13,000 feet goes bad in winter? To hear Hank and you
> talk the sysop should just sit tight and tell his users that nothing will
> go or come for 3-5 months so just relax and watch more TV. If you think
> that then your not a sysop.

```

Yes, I am, as well as a node owner/operator of 3 nodes. When the nodes go down, so does the path. To my west, the next bbs knows I also run a phone port on my test board, for just such emergencies. He knows how to access it, and does. However, this is very rare. It is not done in addition to, or, on a normal basis, in place of the radio network. It is there as an alternate method that is only used when needed. I think what Hank and I, and others, are complaining about is the full time use of internet and telephone ports to forward run-of-the-mill packet traffic that should be used to build our networks around. The purpose of the packet network is not to handle all of this junk mail and give someone something to do for the heck of it. The packet network should be used as a building block, to build better and better networks, that will handle more and more traffic. If that traffic doesn't exist, it won't be built.

When the nodes to the north of me are bad, as they have been, they just go without until they get their act together and get them back up. Is that better than using a phone line or internet? I think it is. As a matter of fact, a recent packet bulletin caused me to rethink this very thing and I no longer feed Rapid City bulletins via export file shipped on internet. I've done it for over a year and the path just stays sick. At least now, they have more incentive to fix it. Whether they do or not is not my problem. I can get the P/T mail across on the weak network. If they want the bulletins, they will have to improve the network.

I am not doing this because I want to be the US Post Office. I'm doing it because it is interesting, and now and then I can learn something and add to the usefulness of the system. Getting the mail delivered is not necessarily secondary, but is not the main goal either. There are multiple goals.

```

> In past years I have MAILED DISKS to wb7tls and he sent me my
> mail the same way. About a week delay but the mail did get through. That
> is what you do if there is NO OTHER WAY.

```

This tells me that you are running a bbs for the main purpose of being a

mailman. I'm not. That's like NTS traffic. If NTS traffic is sent to an area where there are no hams, and no one in toll free calling distance, then the traffic should have been mailed in the first place.

No, none of this discussion holds water for real emergencies. We all know that we will all do WHATEVER IT TAKES to move the EMERGENCY traffic, when and if it happens to come along. I just won't do it for routine, everyday junk mail.

> But now wb7tts and I have the internet and can send mail to each other that way. Better cuzz it only is a 1 day delay...

But it is not helping build a better HAM RADIO network, the goal of some of us.

> N5IST is a packet BBS in Carlsbad, NM. He is cut off from all other ham nodes because a node is down. So he doesn't have Internet but he does have a telephone modem. We keep the mail flowing this way.

> So you Gary and Hank call this a blow to Ham Radio. I disagree. I call THIS Ham Radio!

I call that a blow to ham radio if it is done on a full time basis, instead of fixing the problem. I'm not saying that is what is going on, just qualifying the call.

> I feel your dead wrong Gary. Read above and see if you don't agree. And also re-read what I said about using the telephone. If it's not the truth then say so.

I think there could still be misunderstanding here. I don't think any of us have a problem with setting up and playing with alternate methods of delivery so that you have backup when the system has a weak link. I think the mistake is in using that alternate method because it works better than the radio network and not trying to improve the network. When the crap hits the fan, I'll have the phone port, the radio ports, and the export files all working to get as much of the traffic out as possible. A node crashing is not the end of the world, and is certainly no emergency.

> * 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *

Nothing personal being sought here, just a friendly disagreement and discussion, I hope. :)

73, Gary - AG0N
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us

48. [BBSSIG:742] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Thu, 2 Mar 95 22:49:07 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503030650.AAA00262@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In <9503021826.ZM10139@hanko> Hank Oredson writes:

>On Mar 2, 7:38pm, Robert wrote:

>> Subject: [BBSSIG:741] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

>> As a fond user of a local packet BBS, a finding on my part:

>> The local packet BBS has a telephone user interface. I sign on

>> at 14.4 K and haven't done a 1200 baud VHF radio connect to the BBS

>> in probably two years.... If I had to wade through 1200 baud,

>> and a busy frequency - I would wait til fixed or find another packet BBS

>> with a phone interface.

>

>I'm very confused by your first sentence.

>

>First you say you use a packet bbs, and then you say that you don't use a packet bbs, but use a dial-up bbs.

>

>Your comments help to prove my point.

>

>That 9600 or 56k baud user link just never gets built:

>the LL is so much simpler and cheaper ...

>

> ... Hank

>

I saw the first note and had the same thought that Hank just said. We are going to the easier system of relying on the LL rather than doing the hard work and building a better network.

As for myself, I do all my email on the Internet these days. I check the packet system about every three days just to see if its running.

I guess I am part of the problem and not the solution as well :-(

Sounds like we are pretty much agreed on what the trends are so the real question is how to do turn things around?

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

49. Re: What a thought!

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)
Date: Fri, 03 Mar 1995 11:39:22 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Message-ID: <01HNP517RUF6DJ2BRT@tntech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Let the record show that in a number of attempts of presenting
>what I thought was a logically put forward description of a
>real problem that exists now in forwarding mail between BBS's
>and TCP/IP systems I got no or very little (and vague) response
>from this SIG.

I, for one, am interested in this topic. If others don't want to see it discussed on this sig I'll be happy to have a discussion via private mail, develop a proposal and then, when it's done, present it here or somewhere else for discussion.

Jeff, k9ja

Jeffrey Austen		Tennessee Technological University
jra1854@tntech.edu		Box 5004
+1 615 372 3485		Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

50. Re: [BBSSIG:743] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 95 10:19:30 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503031019.ZM11107@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 2, 9:13pm, Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120] wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:743] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!
> Let the record show that in a number of attempts of presenting
> what I thought was a logically put forward description of a
> real problem that exists now in forwarding mail between BBS's
> and TCP/IP systems I got no or very little (and vague) response
> from this SIG.

I'll try my response again then, since either you didn't read it, or it got lost, or it was not understood.

When I say "address" or "domain" below, I mean email addresses and email domains, not network host addresses or subnet addresses. We all know that in some networks there is a confusion between these different kinds of names, but in this posting I mean to be quite specific.

Several main points:

1) Users should not be required to "source route".

That is, the users in one domain should not need to know the "other domain address" of a user in the other domain. We all have a potentially unique address (our callsign). Yes, I know that this cannot be an absolute requirement, as some users will have addresses in both domains, and possible mutiple addresses in both domains (this is true in my case ...).

2) The only applications that need to be aware of addresses in both domains are the routers (or mail exchangers or gateways).

Again, this is not an absolute, but a design goal, which follows from 1). Each domain has it's own facility for keeping track of user addresses. The software that bridges or links the two domains should deal with the resolution of addresses between the two domains, since that software has access to the address lookup facilities in both domains.

3) Rules need to be enforced on the content of information passing from one domain ("the internet") to the other domain ("the bbs net").

This is required in the US by part 97 content restrictions. These restrictions will be different in different countries, and thus the routers (mail exchangers, gateways) will need to be able to apply different rules in different situations. There is certainly a common subset of the rules that will work "nearly everywhere". We could set these rules down in a formal way, so that the authors of the gateway code (and the sysops that use the gateway code) would have a common base of knowledge to help them do their work.

> Instead a totally ridiculous tirade of how network should route
> traffic goes on. A discussion that although gets the blood pressure
> of both sides elevated will never be resolved because both sides
> will continue to do things as they have.

Sorry you allow things you read to affect you in this way. Also sorry you could not make the effort to get at the content of what folks have been posting, but instead seem to have focused on the style of the delivery. Not everyone is going to write things in the style you happen to like; that is life.

> So the real issues just get glossed over with this smoke screen.

Our opinions of what are "real issues" differ. This discussion touches a number of "real issues" including some issues of intent and some very important (IMO) issues of policy. The technical issues are simple, but the political issues are not. Sorry to muddy the technical discussion with political discuss, but I thought the technical discussion was finished when both Roy and I said that it would be easy to do - technically - if we decided to do it.

> By the way I always wondered with all this discussion - is
> tapr.org radio connected? How do all these BBS sysops that are
> suppose to be on here get this SIG and respond to it? I
> distribute it NNTP (radio) locally because it is apparently not
> available via amateur BBS feeds here. If all you radio nuts
> want to be true you would disconnect from here as this is an
> "amateur radio" discussion.

Yes, this is one main flaw of these kind of discussions: they do not get to a large number of folks who SHOULD be taking part. I've seen no comments from wa8bxn, n2gte, ka2bqe, f6fbb, g1nna, or the majority of the NOS authors. When Roy and I both said "Yup, it's technically easy" we did try and speak for the other authors, but we certainly are not aware of the detailed implications of these proposed changes to MSYS (for example).

Were this discussion echoed to the ham radio network, the other bbs authors would be able to take part in the discussion, and part of the "political work" would be accomplished.

One further comment on the political side: we are talking about changing a "standard" which has been in use for a number of years. Whether the existing standard is a good one or not is unimportant. Whether the proposal is a good idea or not will be debated for some time before any action takes place. It is "hard" to change an existing standard, and if one wishes the change to take place one must be ready to defend and argue their position with all kinds of folks for a rather long time.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.U.S.A.NOAM	

51. Re: [BBSSIG:745] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 95 10:29:54 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503031029.ZM11112@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 2, 10:53pm, Klarsen wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:745] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

>

>

> On Thu, 2 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

>

> > On Mar 2, 7:38pm, Robert wrote:

> > > Subject: [BBSSIG:741] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

> > > As a fond user of a local packet BBS, a finding on my part:

> > > The local packet BBS has a telephone user interface. I sign on

> ^^^^^^^^^^ ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

>

>

> > > at 14.4 K and haven't done a 1200 baud VHF radio connect to the BBS

>

>

> > > in proably two years.... If I had to wade through 1200 baud,

> > > and a busy frequency - I would wait til fixed or find another packet BBS

> > > with a phone interface.

>

> > I'm very confused by your first sentence.

>

> Then go to bed Hank. What Robert said was crystal clear. He

> prefers to use a 14.4 k link over a crowded 1200 baud link. He is SMART.

Are you telling us you cannot tell the difference between using a
dial up (no license required) LL (no radio required) bbs and using
a packet (license required) radio (radio required) bbs?

So what Robert said was that he preferred to use the telephone to using
ham radio. I got that loud and clear ("20 over nine here in Oregon!")

Do you see the point now?

What if ALL the packet bbs users preferred to use the telephone?
Wouldn't be any packet bbs, would be no TAPR, and this discussion group
would not exist.

>

> >

> > First you say you use a packet bbs, and then you say that you

> > don't use a packet bbs, but use a dial-up bbs.

>

> Because your software does not support a telephone modem does not
> mean all pbbs software is that way.

My software doesn't do what? Sorry, but it's time to call you clueless
on this topic.

>

>

> >

> > Your comments help to prove my point.

>

> > That 9600 or 56k baud user link just never gets built:

> > the LL is so much simpler and cheaper ...

>

> Hank your now the problem. You are commenting on every comment
> and just, at best re-telling us your position. Anyone who has read this
> SIG for the past 6 months knows your position. How about letting those of
> us that enjoy many modes of Ham Radio talk about it and you just watch. I
> at this point will not comment any more on your inputs.

Ok, that's reasonable.

But I do not think you have understood my position yet.

This particular posting WAS NOT ABOUT HAM RADIO.

Or is this a hard thing to understand? Let me try it again: the
telephone is not ham radio, even when it is hams talking on the telephone.

I'm trying to help bring this discussion back to ham radio:

Some hams are giving up ham radio and using the telephone instead (that was the topic of this post). What can we do to help reverse this trend? Make faster networks with better applications available on them. How do we do that? As a bbs author, I'd like to hear what folks would want. The networking group has some interesting discussions going on about how to make faster ham radio networks. They are NOT discussing better ways to use the telephone to replace the ham radio networks ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
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52. Re: [BBSSIG:748] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 95 10:42:09 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503031042.ZM11123@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 3, 1:05am, Roy Engehausen wrote:

<deletia>

> Sounds like we are pretty much agreed on what the trends are so the
> real question is how to do turn things around?

We are all in deep doo doo here. Ray and Hank agreeing strongly on anything is not all that usual <giggle> <belly laugh> <ROTFL>.

However, on this one I suspect we think almost exactly alike.

Let's put the question to the group at large:

"What can the bbs authors do to take the next giant step forward in promoting the use of the ham radio network."

Don't know if Roy would agree, but I think this is a political question rather than a technical question.

Tell us what you think.

... Hank

(I'm away on a business trip for the next ten days ...)

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

53. Re: [BBSSIG:746] Re: Packet BBS and the telephone

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 95 10:37:02 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503031037.ZM11117@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 2, 11:13pm, Klarsen wrote:

> > But, at the end of the year, what have you done to improve the network?
>
> My question to you Gary is: are you a packet BBS sysop? What do
> you do if a node at 13,000 feet goes bad in winter? To hear Hank and you
> talk the sysop should just sit tight and tell his users that nothing will
> go or come for 3-5 months so just relax and watch more TV. If you think
> that then your not a sysop.

Um, no, I don't think ANYONE said that. We would figure out ways to route around the failure. Here is one example: about two years ago, the network between N and S Oregon broke during December. It was not possible (even with a snow cat) to get to the site for two months.

What did we do? We used HF links to route the traffic via Central California. Did we use the telephone? Only to call the sysops involved and discuss ways and means of solving the problem USING HAM RADIO.

> In past years I have MAILED DISKS to wb7t1s and he sent me my
> mail the same way. About a week delay but the mail did get through. That
> is what you do if there is NO OTHER WAY.

The discussion was not about "When there is NO other way".
It was about "Using LL links as a normal means".

> But now wb7t1s and I have the internet and can send mail to each
> other that way. Better cuzz it only is a 1 day delay...

And no pressure to create ham radio links.

> N5IST is a packet BBS in Carlsbad, NM. He is cut off from all
> other ham nodes because a node is down. So he doesn't have Internet but
> he does have a telephone modem. We keep the mail flowing this way.

So what is the point? That one should, by policy, use commercial networks as a favored means of moving traffic? In my reading of this discussion to date, nobody has suggested NOT using commercial networks IN ADDITION to the ham radio network. I might very well take that position, but that's not what I've been arguing.

> So you Gary and Hank call this a blow to Ham Radio. I disagree. I
> call THIS Ham Radio!

This is ham radio? Over this commercial network? Sorry for the heavy sarcasm, but if this is ham radio, then the hobby is dead - there ain't no radios here!

> > Handling traffic over the telephone lines doesn't do a thing to cause the
> > radio networks to be improved. On the contrary, you lighten the load on
> > the radio network, decreasing the need to improve it. This is the core
> > of what Hank and others have been saying, and they are right. Hey, Hank
> > has come out with strange ideas the last couple of years, but he is right
> > on this one, in my opinion.
> >
> > Gary
> >
> I feel your dead wrong Gary. Read above and see if you don't
> agree. And also re-read what I said about using the telephone. If it's
> not the truth then say so.

Why can't I take part in this discussion group at home, over the radio?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
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54. Re: [BBSSIG:715] Re: What a MESS!

From: vodall@mtewe.UUCP
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 1995 03:33:01 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rkUfR-0002gQC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> What *do* you think about using commercial networks to bypass
> the ham radio network we are trying to build?
>
> Is it a good idea or a bad one?
> Will it help or harm ham radio?
>
> ... Hank
>
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations

Some times a person reads or hears a statement or idea that stays with them.
It just seems to hang in there bouncing around and every now in then
surfacing to be remembered and considered again and again.

That happened to me twice last fall while in Colorado. (Being in Colorado had nothing to do with it - it was just the timing...)

The first was Doug's idea of using Netrom to provide for automatic routing of IP packets. It's not practical with 216 byte data packets that is the common case now.. But who knows what the future will bring. (If a X1J node here gets reset now - all the IP traffic stops. This was the system the government developed to be robust in case of war?)

The other was Hank's comments on the current situation where resources (money, time, research) are invested in non-RF communications instead of the RF world which is supposedly our field of interest and expertise.

That "idea" made a big impression to me.

I don't agree entirely with Hank. Turning off the Amateur Packets piggy-backing on the Internet allowing the gateways to connect would be (IMHO) a big step backwards. This is a functionality that is unlikely to ever be matched by our native systems. (At least until AMSAT Phase Z flies...)

On the other hand - there is so much more we can do on HF to pass traffic and do it the right way... And do it our selves and for free (once it's installed...).

Montana is currently in a packet black hole. We get few bulletins. And many of those come in via the landline or Internet gateways in Calgary.

I used to be picking up some general traffic via an N0ARY Internet/UUCP setup for distribution around the state. I've cut that back to a select few bulletins to keep the system working.

The focus now is to "do it myself." And that feels a lot better.

I hope to have HF packet working (I can hear them - why can't they hear me?) tomorrow and with a little luck I'll find some systems that will let another station in their exclusive little group to handle some traffic.

And I have this dream of coming up with a method to catch the traffic being forwarded between other bbs and bring it in with out having to transmit or connect. There's got to be a better way than the point to point to point and to point again forwarding that's currently being done. My idea would be a hack but it would be a step in the right direction. Maybe somebody (besides the satellite links) already has that working.... I hope so. How do I get a copy?

Then what - how about a G-TOR/AMTOR bbs link to JNOS? Or maybe some trick new DSP system using a PC sound card.

There's lots to do out there and I'm happy to have changed my focus.

Thanks Hank...

--

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@n7see.mt.usa.noam

(ps. I still think eliminating .NA AND .NOAM completely would do a lot to simplify mail routing.. :-)

55. Re: [BBSSIG:752] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.mpcs.com>
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 1995 18:17:49 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503032317.SAA00431@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank Oredson wrote:

>

> Let's put the question to the group at large:

>

> "What can the bbs authors do to take the next giant step forward
> in promoting the use of the ham radio network."

>

> Don't know if Roy would agree, but I think this is a political

> question rather than a technical question.
>

Nah, it's an ergonomics question. The software is hard to use. Check in once a night and you're still faced with 250 messages to scroll through, and most of each line is header information. I plead guilty to this offense in my PMS implementation (but there are mitigating circumstances).

Make a more usable system and they will come. It's been a long time since many of us were "users." Maybe we need to take a hint from TRON and make the software do the user's bidding. Might start by having the software remember more about us than our callsigns, names, and last message number read. Maybe a scanner that picks out key words the user selected in new bulletins and custom builds a list?

Howie

--

Howard Goldstein
InfoMotion, Inc.

hg@n2wx.mpcs.com
<http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx>

56. Re: [BBSSIG:755] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 95 15:48:56 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503031548.ZM12812@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 3, 5:36pm, Howard Goldstein wrote:

> Nah, it's an ergonomics question. The software is hard to use. Check in
> once a night and you're still faced with 250 messages to scroll through, and
> most of each line is header information. I plead guilty to this offense in
> my PMS implementation (but there are mitigating circumstances).
>
> Make a more usable system and they will come. It's been a long time since
> many of us were "users." Maybe we need to take a hint from TRON and make the
> software do the user's bidding. Might start by having the software remember
> more about us than our callsigns, names, and last message number read. Maybe
> a scanner that picks out key words the user selected in new bulletins and
> custom builds a list?

I've put some of these features into my code ... and have surveyed my users about a few more. The "keep track of my favorite topics" has been high on the list, but not high priority (i.e. everyone mentions it, but then says it's no big deal since they just use the LC - List Categories) anyway.

Do we need a standard way to keep track of user bulletin viewing preferences - a la perhaps .newsrsc?

Now that Howie mentioned this issue, it brings to mind another issue (and another flame war) concerning bulletin category names. I tend to "normalize" the To: field of bulletins (e.g. language translation "all" "alle" "alles" "tutti" "todos" and similar, along with a few common misspellings). However, users still tend to have a good deal of trouble finding things. Yes, I know usenet news has the perfect solution (or is it www that now has the perfect solution), but we do not yet use these applications on the ham radio network.

Is .newsrsc (i.e. "subscribe me to this" "unsubscribe me from this") what the users are asking for? Or is there something different we should do?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

Library Operations
"Parts 'R Us!"

57. The whole is greater than the parts

From: willi_r@mail.uwlax.edu (Rick Williams)
Date: Fri, 3 Mar 95 21:09:46 -0600
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <9503040309.AA11757@mail.uwfax.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The radio links by themselves have significant attributes and the landline links have significant attributes. But together the complement creates a powerful medium of messaging and networking that is far greater than each part working in a vacuum. Progress causes painful changes to previously held beliefs. Examples: packet radio replaced vhf rtty and vhf rtty repeaters (at least in our area). The radio packet network took much traffic that would have gone to the voice/cw NTS system. It may be that high speed hf digital networks using new technologies (like CLOVER II and PACTOR II) replace wide band relatively inefficient hf modes like hf packet. And in order for the U.S. amateur community to try and at least partially keep up with the real world of ever higher speed data transmission, we must either have a higher speed (56k at the entry level) radio network traversing most of this country, a multichannel geosynchronous satellite system, or use the LL channels. Most areas of the country are not going to have a 56kbps and higher radio link because the distances and obstructions are difficult and the number of volunteers and dollars are just not there. In my lifetime we will not see any geosynchronous satellites for amateur radio networks. This leaves the internet as a exciting opportunity.

In my view, extensive interconnection with the internet is the only rational way of making our network function at an adequate level. Unlike amateur radio links, the internet is extremely robust and has many full time professionals available to respond to any down time and keep the fiber/wire/etc. operating. Amateur radio nodes lack this robustness and in a real emergency should the internet go down in an area, it is rather likely that the amateur links will not work. Few of the nodes in our part of the country have any emergency power backups.

I believe that within the next decade, most communities will have a minimum of one internet/ham radio gateway for at least message traffic. When the next emergency comes, and you lose internet access in your immediate area, there will then be other internet access points close enough via vhf/uhf. If the emergency area is exceptionally remote it may be necessary to employ hf connections to possible future hf networks/gateways.

I feel that it is reasonable that messages be routed to their destination within a time frame of no more than 24 hours and I feel that this is an obtainable goal when amateur radio and the internet are connected. There is a symbiotic relationship that is greater than the parts. We will be able to have a very robust, high speed network, with our unique ability to operate portable, relocate equipment and personnel as needed, and still provide the emergency service that is not available from other sources. The highest speed links I believe will tend to exist in the local areas for a rich multimedia network. This is where the future is going to be for TAPR. Developing very high speed radio networking solutions at an affordable price that can do things that are not available elsewhere.

58. Re: [BBSSIG:749] Re: What a thought!

From: wa3dsp@wa3dsp.ampr.org (Doug Crompton - Richboro, PA - [44.80.8.120])
Date: Sat, 04 Mar 95 04:10:13 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <72272@wa3dsp.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>I, for one am interested in this topic. If others don't want to see it discussed on this sig I'll be happy to have a discussion via private mail,

Jeff,

I thought that was the purpose of Brian's new SIG. It is set up and going - so why don't we use it. I am game. I also think that this discussion needs more TCP/IP representation (and at higher levels). It is (understandably on BBSSIG) getting a lopsided representation here slanted towards the BBS interests. As a case in point nothing has done more to foster the interface of BBS and TCP/IP mail then JNOS - with (arguably) the exception of MSYS. The problem with MSYS is that it has some TCP/IP compatibility problems.

This is a very important topic. In this "information age" to not be able to readily communicate between systems is ridiculous. It is almost a requirement for this to happen in all other mediums. For Amateur radio to stand out on some island and say "we don't need to talk" is like the argument that the AM'ers had when SSB came along. It is an enhancement to our technical advancement PERIOD!

See you over on the fwd-bbs SIG - I am already getting daily digest feeds from there and I distribute them (as well as this and about

30 other list) here over amateur radio both as NNTP news and AX25 BBS mail.

73 Doug

59. Re: [BBSSIG:756] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: schiers@ibm.net
Date: Sat, 04 Mar 95 07:39:56
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503041615.AA0145@localhost>
Rendered body type: text/plain

HOWIE> Make a more usable system and they will come.

That is precisely the point that I was making in my comments about any system being market driven. Perhaps the most influential group of customers in our service (amateur radio), is the end users. Whatever makes the system more usable for the "end users" will, in fact, be realized. Among the choices available to the end user, the ones that are seen as "valuable" and "useful" will be where the density centers.

What kind of factors go into "usability?"

1. Cost
2. Availability
3. Speed
4. Reliability
5. Variety of Content/Capacity

I am sure there are many more factors, and arguably the order of importance needs to be established. (I just blew my order out the keyboard.)

Eventually we are going to have to face that what we think or want will have very little impact on how each user or the body of users evaluates the five variables listed above.

Also, dividing the issue along dichotomous lines is an artificial constraint, and largely a straw man position, i.e., internet vs rf net.

Is it really likely that the vast majority of end users will have affordable access to the internet in the "lifetime" future of our current software/net system?

I don't think so. The alleged replacement issue seems specious.

Where relatively slow RF backbones are replaced/augmented by relatively high speed LL connections, how do the five factors noted above impact the end users?

Cost: no net change, if the end users are still using tnccs/radios
Avail: no net change, if the local rf bbs stays on the air.
Speed: turnaround/delivery: much in favor of LL
interactive: no change if bbs'ing via tnc.
Relia: given my experiences, likelihood of delivery/response is far higher if there are wormholes or LL for long paths. If we assume that the hardware on LL and RF are equally reliable, (and that is a stretch), simply because on a given long path there are more RF hops than LL hops, the reliability of the RF path is probably significantly below that of LL.
Cont: Variety of content is a function of capacity. Obviously the advantages of throughput and reliability are far in favor of the land line.

The question, "Is it better?", begs, "for whom?"

If I put myself in the place of the end user with my tnc/radio, what do I want? I want the most of the best for the least (cost and time). If these are the "real world" criteria as distinguished from our personal preferences and goals, then clearly a combination of internet/LL and RF serves most end users (customers) the best and they will in fact, gravitate towards systems which provide same.

So I agree with hank, there will be an erosion of support for high cost, relatively slow speed, relatively low reliability long haul paths in favor of LL. We can lament it, but we will not stop it.

Packet radio is not going to go away because poorly performing networks are supplanted or augmented by LL. The real concentration of packet is in the end users who are attracted by what the bbs has to offer them. It will always have more to offer if the "best" network is transmitting the info. It is very apparent to me that amateur radio as a stand alone cannot currently, nor is

it likely in the future to provide this.

Whether a given rf path warrants replacement by LL is in the hands of those on each end and not the province of theoreticians or others mired in the status quo.

So Howie, you are right on the mark:

Build a better network, and they will come...that is exactly what is happening.

Robert "hasan" Schiers N0AN
RR 2, BOX 71, Ames, IA 50010

60. Re: [BBSSIG:759] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.mpcs.com>
Date: Sat, 4 Mar 1995 14:03:47 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503041903.0AA00106@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

schiers@ibm.net wrote:

>
> What kind of factors go into "usability"?
>
> 1. Cost
> 2. Availability
> 3. Speed
> 4. Reliability
> 5. Variety of Content/Capacity

All are important but more in the nature of transport or economic issues rather than ergonomic. The transport matters are perhaps better dealt with in NETSIG, along with the entire debate over internet/ham forwarding. Yes I'll make lots of friends over there by sending them this one :-)
As far as I can tell from down in Florida we have plenty of content variety, it's just not presented in an organized fashion.

>From the usability standpoint, my wish list has only three entries, two requiring a form of .newsrsrc but with greater flexibility, and the third is extremely simple.

Starting from simple to complex, it'd be great to preclude posting of messages to the ALL destination. Just block them. Bounce them back if they arrive. A message so general it can't be categorized doesn't even need to be posted. A user too lazy to categorize doesn't deserve the courtesy of having hundreds of others forward his message.

On organization, my .newsrsrc should be customizable to display in response to the L command a list of bulletins addressed TO and @ destinations fitting criteria I previously entered. The criteria may be positive ('all AMSAT') or negative ('no RECIPE') or both. That's wish list entry number 2.

Number three would perform searches on the message text and the TO address for selecting messages. Most users I imagine will fill their profile with negative entries ('no RECIPE, SALE, WANTED, 4SALE, @WW').

Negative entries are more useful in that one never knows ahead of time what interesting new category will come up. The REBBS with which I have an extremely poor path has this inverse list feature but doesn't remember my preferences (ergonomics!). It takes forever to type the above by hand in the cryptic format it needs.

I dislike LC as it forces me to eyeball a large list of categories, pick out each individually, go through another list to get the headers, then R each one. MSYS (my local system) has this too, I never use it. If the computer already knows the ones I want (and don't want) it can display only those to me when I hit LP (list Profile) and save me keystrokes, time, and searching through lists. Computers are great at saving time and searching lists.

Howie

--
Howard Goldstein
InfoMotion, Inc.

hg@n2wx.mpcs.com
<http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx>

61. Amateur Packet: a foot-path

From: ac448@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Roy E Gould)
Date: Sun, 5 Mar 95 10:02:29 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503051702.AA15982@rgfn.epcc.Edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello BBSSIG

I have just read most of the messages posted on the BBSSIG in past few days about Internet / telephone (non-Amateur Radio) forwarding and would like to submit a few of my thoughts for your consideration.

I operate a BBS and several nodes in this area. I have had access to the Internet for about 1.5 years. What a difference! The Internet has its problems but is light years ahead of Amateur Radio. We have been hearing that this is the "Information Age" and about the information Super-Highway. But the stage where Amateur Radio is today I suggest should be called the information foot-path. It is not even a dirt-road yet!

Our very talented programmers have written fantastic software that works great. But our radio links between the computers running this software is very poor.

How can Amateur Radio compete or even stay in the shadow of services available on the Internet such as the World Wide Web? I have the privilege of having an ethernet connection (10 megabits/sec) into the Internet at work. It is amazing to watch the WWW through such a connection. While it does still require some patience while waiting for a 1 Meg .GIF picture to come through it is not unbearable. I see that in the not to distant future it will be common to have a connection into the Information Super-Highway at home where effective data rates are not far from what I have available to me at work now. I have to ask myself the question would I prefer to spend my money on a good high speed data connection into the Internet or spend it building Amateur Radio packet switch sites. Where do I get the most bang for the buck?

This all makes the prospects for Packet Radio seem pretty dismal but things may not be all that bad. There are some inherent advantages to using radio links instead of wire links. These advantages must be fully defined and exploited by the Amateur Radio community if Packet Radio is to survive.

We are still stuck for the most part at 1200 baud. Very few users have moved to higher bauds. The primary reason is economics. Most Hams want to use their voice radios for packet. The IF filters in voice radios will not pass data at bauds higher than 9600. If there is not some kind of break through in radios we will be stuck at 1200 baud forever. Perhaps some time in the future cheap high speed radios will become available, something like happened in the 1960s when surplus commercial FM radios became available. This caused the world of FM repeaters to grow like wildfire.

I have fairly seriously considered converting the primary 145.010 1200 baud node serving El Paso, TX (ELP:N5RG-1) to 19.2 Kbaud. But this would be a drastic change and I expect a cry of anguish would arise from the users. In the long run it would be an improvement but the initial reaction would most likely be strongly negative.

But, perhaps the reaction will be sufficiently cushioned by the architecture of ELPNET. We have provided 1200 baud inputs into ELPNET on 144.95, 145.05, and 145.09 MHz. Our sister city of Las Cruces, NM has an input on 145.07 MHz. We have a 9600 baud input on 145.03. So most of the 1200 baud only users could still access ELPNET even if the 145.01 node located on the mountain top were changed to 19.2 Kbaud (would probably change frequency to 144.99 MHz).

Under the current rules 19.2 Kbaud is the highest legal baud on 2-m. We should go for the maximum and not be satisfied with 9600 baud even if this would simplify the radio situation. This would be a tremendous improvement and would perhaps bring us up to the level of a dirt-road. But building the Super-Highway will require much greater improvements.

73, Roy Gould N5RG in El Paso, Texas

62. Re: [BBSSIG:760] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Sun, 05 Mar 1995 22:03:07 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503060303.WAA09249@panix3.panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

--Two thoughts--

schiers@ibm.net wrote:

>

> What kind of factors go into "usability?"

Perhaps one problem is that PBBS software expects to have dumb terminals.

Yes, everyone could run TCP/IP. But they don't, and likely won't. So perhaps the PBBS codesmiths could consider writing user mail/news software which will interface in a client/server fashion with the PBBS.

What I have in mind is PBBSs which can (in addition to everything PBBSs now do) send, either on a scheduled basis or on request, a list of all bulletins on the system -- including the BID. The user program would present this as a pick-list, where desired bulletins would be tagged for later retrieval. (More advanced versions would have the ability to "know" to always get bulletins matching particular criteria.) Then the user program would connect to the PBBS and tell it which BIDs it wants, and the PBBS would send them.

(And if the Bulletin requested has been killed, an advanced version of this software might be able to forward the user request on to another PBBS which is known to hold bulletins longer.)

This could be done, perhaps, as a "backwards" version of X-forwarding.

Personal messages for the user would also be sent by the PBBS whenever the user connects.

And there should be a mechanism for writing messages/bulletins, as well.

This is similar to an idea Brian Riley, KA2BQE, has been kicking around for some time -- a personal Packet Radio MailBox to go with the PRMBS PBBS.

If the codesmiths spec'd this and wrote the user code for the platforms they are familiar with, and it becomes popular, then other software authors could write user code for other platforms.

(And if a multi-cast protocol ever gets widely used terrestrially it could be incorporated into the user code.)

And another thought --

Has anyone implemented Gopher or http servers over-the-air? The WWW is said to be the "killer app" for the Internet -- perhaps it could do the same for packet?

Consider a standard set of graphics distributed with the user software, which can be called within HTML documents and will never be transmitted over the network. This would help limit the bandwidth need initially, while still providing "flashy" results.

And new "standard" graphics could be distributed as multicast "broadcasts", or as packet bulletins, to enlarge the library.

Then we could show how the applications will be so much faster, and be able to do much more, if the users contribute to packet network development...

Comments?

73, Andy

--

	Andrew Funk, KB7UV	
Tech Producer/Editor	Internet: kb7uv@panix.com	

63. Personal Message System

From: ac448@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Roy E Gould)
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 95 09:48:11 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503061648.AA01131@rgfn.epcc.Edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk) wrote:

>What I have in mind is PBBs which can (in addition to everything PBBs now
>do) send, either on a scheduled basis or on request, a list of all bulletins
>on the system -- including the BID. The user program would present this as
>a pick-list, where desired bulletins would be tagged for later retrieval.
>(More advanced versions would have the ability to "know" to always get
>bulletins matching particular criteria.) Then the user program would
>connect to the PBB and tell it which BIDs it wants, and the PBB would send
>them.

Andrew: There is a piece of software available that does pretty much what you suggest. It is called PMS (Personal Message System) and is written by G8NPF. It works particularly well with the FBB BBS since PMS can setup various LC topics and then ask for a list of them. PMS does not require that it be listening on the radio channel that FBB is broadcasting it's list of new bulletins and messages on as TPK does. You can use your own routing.

PMS is available on ftp.ucsd.edu or from ftp.demon.co.uk in /pub/ham.
That latest version on the .uk site is NPF221E.

73, Roy Gould N5RG

64. Welcome the New Chair of BBSSIG

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 5 Mar 95 22:13:22 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503060413.AA161838@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Fitting that it take place at the one-year milestone of the BBS Special Interest Group, a new Chair is announced.

The original plan for BBS SIG was that I would organize it, give it a sense of purpose and serve as its Chair for an interim period, identify an individual to take the reigns, then bow out as Chair. Although this interim period has stretched into a full year, I am very pleased that an individual has stepped forward to take the lead. Barry Buelow, WA0RJT, is your new Chair for BBS SIG. Please join me in congratulating Barry on his new role! Barry has been a long-term contributor to BBSSIG and the author of the new TAPR publication, the "BBS Sysop Guide."

As incoming BBS SIG Chair, Barry has many fresh new ideas. I'll let him share his vision for the SIG and bbs operation with you over the coming weeks and months. He got off to a warm welcome and great start at the just-concluded TAPR Annual Meeting, where news of his appointment was announced.

I am not retiring from bbs operation or packet radio! As Vice-President of the Texas Packet Radio Society, I am the co-chair of the host committee for the 1995 ARRL Digital Communications Conference. This year's DCC will be held September 8-10 in Arlington, Texas, and is co-hosted by TAPR. In addition, I am in charge of organizing the TPRS Digital Forum and Special Committee Meetings at the 1995 HamCom in Arlington, Texas, June 9-11. We've got a lot going on in Texas this year. Y'all come! Incidentally, for those not familiar with Texas, Arlington is smack-dab in the middle of the Dallas/Ft Worth Metroplex, and 10 minutes south of D/FW Airport.

Congratulations, Barry, and best of luck in your new leadership role. Thanks to all for the courtesies you've extended to me in the past year as I've had the privilege of serving you as the founding BBS Chair. The best is yet to come!

73,

Dave Wolf W05H
dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

65. JNOS PROBLEMs reboot every hour or so.(sample of log included)

From: Daniel Audet <daudet@LLC.org>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 20:23:54 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950306202037.16214A-100000@biko.llc.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi everyone

i am having a big problem with my gate since last monday
i had 5 axip link and after i add the 6th the jnos started to get rotten
here is a listing of my log for march 6th.

i have a 386sx16 1meg of memory and after jnos is booted with the
stat command or ms i get around 210k free memory on the start but it
seems to do not last very long as you can see in the log
30 minutes after start i goes to zero or near zero
can anyone help me on that one or at least have the explanation to the
7 lines of warning and counters that appears below at 10:31
73 to all

and i will appreciate you help

dan ve2pnk

sysop of QBGATE:VE2QBC.ampr.org 44.135.71.10

daudet@llc.org (email)

```
10:01:34 - JNOS 1.10g_cnb1 (80386) was started
10:02:30 - AT command: conver link 132.192.10.96 Memphis|9
10:16:29 - AT command: ne bcn 440|8
10:31:36 - AT command: ne bcnodes ryn|6
10:31:37 - AT command: ne bcnodes ply|5
10:31:38 - AT command: ne bcnodes ve7|4
10:31:40 - AT command: ne bcnodes ve4|3
10:31:41 - AT command: ne bcnodes tx|2
```

-----NOTE-----
HERE I SHOULD HAVE AN OTHER LINE FOR MY LAST AXIP LINK WITH bcnodes mtl|1
BUT IT IS NOT THERE AND SEEMS TO GET THAT GARBAGE
I AM HAVING THAT PROBLEM SINCE I ADD THE AXIP LINK TO ryn THE ONE LABEL |6

```
10:31:43 - free: WARNING! invalid pointer (87BE:0008) pc = 2e77:028f proc killer
10:31:44 - Memory status:
10:31:44 - heap size 338672, avail 10960 (3%), morecores 6647, coreleft 0
10:31:44 - allocs 10950, frees 5888 (diff 5062), reallocs 432, alloc fails 117
invalid frees 1, overused 0
10:31:44 - garbage collections yellow 0, red 0
10:31:44 - threshold 16384
10:31:44 - interrupts-off calls to malloc 0, free 0
STARTED BY ITSELF AGAIN-----
```

```
10:37:51 - JNOS 1.10g_cnb1 (80386) was started
10:38:47 - AT command: conver link 132.192.10.96 Memphis|9
10:38:54 VE2THG @ VE2NOQ - MBOX open
10:43:48 VE2THG @ VE2NOQ - MBOX exit: ve2thg
10:52:46 - AT command: ne bcn 440|8
10:57:38 VE2NBT @ VE2VAX-5 - MBOX open
11:07:52 - AT command: ne bcnodes ryn|6
11:07:53 - AT command: ne bcnodes ply|5
11:07:55 - AT command: ne bcnodes ve7|4
11:07:56 - AT command: ne bcnodes ve4|3
11:07:58 - AT command: ne bcnodes tx|2
11:07:59 - free: WARNING! invalid pointer (8928:0008) pc = 2e77:028f proc killer
11:07:59 - Memory status:
11:07:59 - heap size 338656, avail 9952 (2%), morecores 6495, coreleft 16
11:07:59 - allocs 51227, frees 46227 (diff 5000), reallocs 434, alloc fails 117
invalid frees 1, overused 0
11:07:59 - garbage collections yellow 0, red 0
11:08:00 - threshold 16384
11:08:00 - interrupts-off calls to malloc 0, free 0

11:08:08 - free: WARNING! invalid pointer (AC98:7084) pc = 2cfe:0265 proc network
11:08:08 - Memory status:
11:08:08 - heap size 338656, avail 162912 (48%), morecores 6515, coreleft 16
11:08:08 - allocs 52110, frees 49717 (diff 2393), reallocs 434, alloc fails 137
invalid frees 2, overused 0
11:08:08 - garbage collections yellow 1, red 0
11:08:08 - threshold 16384
11:08:08 - interrupts-off calls to malloc 0, free 0

11:08:08 - free: WARNING! invalid pointer (7420:0043) pc = 2cfe:0265 proc network
11:08:08 - Memory status:
11:08:08 - heap size 338656, avail 162912 (48%), morecores 6515, coreleft 16
11:08:08 - allocs 52117, frees 49724 (diff 2393), reallocs 434, alloc fails 137
```

```

invalid frees 3, overused 0
11:08:08 - garbage collections yellow 1, red 0
11:08:08 - threshold 16384
11:08:08 - interrupts-off calls to malloc 0, free 0

11:08:08 - free: WARNING! invalid pointer (982F:0008) pc = 2cfe:0265 proc network
11:08:08 - Memory status:
11:08:08 - heap size 338656, avail 162912 (48%), morecores 6515, coreleft 16
11:08:09 - allocs 52124, frees 49731 (diff 2393), reallocs 434, alloc fails 137
invalid frees 4, overused 0
11:08:09 - garbage collections yellow 1, red 0
11:08:09 - threshold 16384
11:08:09 - interrupts-off calls to malloc 0, free 0

11:14:09 - JNOS 1.10g_cnb1 (80386) was started

11:15:04 - AT command: conver link 132.192.10.96 Memphis|9
11:29:03 - AT command: ne bcn 440|8
11:44:09 - AT command: ne bcnodes ryn|6
11:44:10 - AT command: ne bcnodes ply|5
11:44:12 - AT command: ne bcnodes ve7|4
11:44:13 - AT command: ne bcnodes ve4|3
11:44:15 - AT command: ne bcnodes tx|2
11:44:18 - free: WARNING! invalid pointer (87E1:0008) pc = 2e77:028f proc killer
11:44:18 - Memory status:
11:44:18 - heap size 338608, avail 11328 (3%), morecores 6796, coreleft 48
11:44:18 - allocs 17908, frees 12860 (diff 5048), reallocs 485, alloc fails 228
invalid frees 1, overused 0
11:44:18 - garbage collections yellow 0, red 0
11:44:18 - threshold 16384
11:44:18 - interrupts-off calls to malloc 0, free 0

```

```

-----
73 de Dan,      ax.25net:    VE2PNK@VE2BAR.#QBC.PQ.CAN.NA
                amprnet:    not yet but it's coming
                internet:    daudet@biko.llc.org
                fax:         418-622-5363
                tel:         418-622-3238
-----

```

66. New SIG Directions

```

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 20:15:14 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503070215.UAA17822@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

BBSSIG Members,

Several weeks ago, (when the SIG was quiet), Greg and Dave asked if I was interested in taking over as chairman of the BBSSIG. I accepted and at the TAPR annual meeting in St. Louis, I began my duties. Attached are notes for a brief presentation which I made at the meeting and I want to share them with the group.

Also at the meeting, TAPR introduced the BBS SYSOP Guide with I authored. This is a new book and was written with the new SYSOP in mind. If you happen to get a copy, I'd be interested in hearing your comments and I'll try to incorporate them in a future edition.

One topic of discussion was whether to moderate both the BBSSIG and the NETSIG. It was decided that both groups would continue to be open to all comments. Replies will continue to be open to the group, rather than directed only to the originator. I will try to focus the discussion and lead it in specific directions. In the next week, I plan to introduce an agenda with several important topics. If you have a issue which you would like to add, please send me a personal note and I'll be happy to discuss it.

I also want to thank Dave Wolf for leading the SIG in its first year. This group is emerging as a leading edge discussion of the packet network and the hierarchical forwarding spec is a key step in the right direction.

73 Barry WA0RJT

wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
barry@ia.net

I pledge to work both with and for the TAPR BBSSIG, to improve the current BBS network and to lead the group in examining the opportunities for the future. I hope the SIG will address these two areas with balance.

1. Improving the existing BBS Network

Certainly there are incremental improvements which we can make to the existing BBS network. Currently there is a discussion of hierarchical forwarding schemes and there will continue to be discussions of hot topics. User education will be a big task, but it must be undertaken. All of these are ongoing efforts which will allow TAPR to provide leadership in the digital community.

To provide focus on the future, I hope to start an initiative to bring about significant change to the BBS network. I call this project "BBS 2000". We need to find new and better ways to distribute bulletins. Operating practices may be in for a change as client/server techniques are applied to BBS operation. As we have seen in the last few months on the SIG, there's great interest in OS/2 and configuring G8BPQ code to work in this environment. The TAPR BBSSIG can be of great value to the amateur community by pioneering this effort and documenting the results.

1.1 Survey of SYSOPs

In order to understand the level of interest in certain topics, a survey will be undertaken to gauge the SIG members satisfaction with their current BBS.

Which BBS?

Satisfaction?

Areas for improving this program?

How can TAPR address ?

What function should a BBS perform that is not a part of most BBS today?

1.2 Working Groups

Small work groups of 3 to 6 individuals who are interested in specific topics and possess the necessary skills to address the issue will be formed. As new concepts are brought forward to the entire SIG, they will be discussed to determine expose underlying problems and suggest solutions. The issue will then be assigned to a working group which will examine the details of the problem, formulate a solution and present a concise response back to the SIG.

1.3 BBS Specification

One of the major open items which TAPR should address is the lack of a BBS specification for message forwarding. A working group consisting of BBS authors and selected SYSOPs will be formed. A review of the previous specification will be made with areas of agreement noted. Open issues will be addressed and work will move to new topics.

A validation team will be formed to test various BBS response to test suite of messages. Results of the validation process will be public. This is a common process for software validation and should eliminate discussion concerning compliance with the specification.

1.4 Periodic Summaries

In order to draw discussions to provide closure on some discussion topics, a summary will be issued with attention given to a recommended solution and justification of the action.

1.5 Quarterly BBSSIG Topics and Results

Summaries of the SIG activity will be provided to PSR on a regular basis.

1.6 BBS of the Month

In order to see what is going on in the real world, each month a specific BBS will be described in detail. The idea is to provide all SYSOPs with exposure to other BBS activities. This will help all of us understand how people see things differently.

1.7 User Education

TAPR is taking a leadership role in the digital modes. Inventing new hardware technology is not enough if we are to make real progress. Some mechanism for educating users must be undertaken. One method of disseminating information is through the network itself.

2. BBS 2000

Do you think that the BBS network in the year 2000 will be the same as it

is today? Will minor changes and refinements continue to mark BBS progress or will there be major changes?

If you think there will be major changes, then you better start working on them today. Looking at the changes in BBS over the past 5 years, you see many changes and improvements. More features are important than just List, Read and Send. CDROMs are more popular, Internet connections are common and 9600 baud is no longer black magic.

So what will the BBS 2000 look like? Stay tuned and see!

2.1 Bulletin Distribution Schemes

Should bulletins continue to be distributed by flooding the network?

Is there a client/server scheme that could be used for bulletins?

What is the future of HF?

Can HF bulletin distribution be revived and improved?

Where is satellite distribution?

2.2 PC Operating System of the Future

Nearly everyone runs a DOS system, but there is more interest in OS/2 and Linux everyday. Are SYSOPs ready to step up to a multitasking operating system? If so, which one?

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

67. Specific NOS questions

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 20:34:24 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503070234.UAA18031@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'm not trying to run off the xNOS users, but there are lists which might be better able to answer specific NOS questions.

The definitive xNOS mailing list is the nos-bbs@hydra.carleton.ca list run by Barry.

The definitive TNOS mailing list is tnos-topics@lantz.com, though a lot of TNOS discussion is on nos-bbs.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

68. Re: [BBSSIG:762] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 20:39:04 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503062054.A26156-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 6 Mar 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:

>
> --Two thoughts--
>
>
> schiers@ibm.net wrote:
> >
> > What kind of factors go into "usability?"
>
>
> Perhaps one problem is that PBBS software expects that users have dumb
> terminals.
>
> Yes, everyone could run TCP/IP. But they don't, and likely won't. So
> perhaps the PBBS coders could consider writing user mail/news software
> which will interface in a client/server fashion with the PBBS.
>
> What I have in mind is PBBSs which can (in addition to everything PBBSs now

> do) send, either on a scheduled basis or on request, a list of all bulletins
> on the system -- including the BID. The user program would present this as
> a pick-list, where desired bulletins would be tagged for later retrieval.
> (More advanced versions would have the ability to "know" to always get
> bulletins matching particular criteria.) Then the user program would
> connect to the PBBS and tell it which BIDs it wants, and the PBBS would send
> them.

All features already included in TPK, but uses msg numbers instead of
bids, easily changed in code. Not sure how far it goes toward the
"advanced" feature.

> (And if the Bulletin requested has been killed, an advanced version of this
> software might be able to forward the user request on to another PBBS which
> is known to hold bulletins longer.)

Not a part of TPK.

> Personal messages for the user would also be sent by the PBBS whenever the
> user connects.

Already in TPK.

> And there should be a mechanism for writing messages/bulletins, as well.

And while we are at it, let's come up with a way to separate mail and
bulletins, like internet. Two modules within the BBS could handle the
two tasks.

In support of an earlier posting, I would also like to see a .nwsrsrc type
setup, where you could "signup" for what you wanted to see. A command
would be given to the board to list the available categories (no, not
like LC), and the user allowed to specify which of those cats were shown
in his daily listings. When new ones came out, they would be presented
to him, like a news reader, and asked if he wants to "subscribe" to the
new ones, one at a time.

As earlier stated, from a user's point of view, the packet bbs is one of
the most unfriendly programs around. Each one is different, sometimes
using the same commands to do completely different operations on each
board. A more standardized, and MUCH more friendly user interface needs
to be developed so that the user doesn't have to go through so much pain
to make use of the local bbs.

> Has anyone implemented Gopher or http servers over-the-air? The WWW is said
> to be the "killer app" for the Internet -- perhaps it could do the same for
> packet?

The killer app will take a killer network. I doubt that you will see the
required network in your lifetime, unless you live in one of a very small
handful of heavily populated areas. The rest of the network will
struggle along at 1200, 9600, and sometimes higher speeds until some
better mode comes along that can do the job cheaper. To afford the
killer apps and killer networks, you will need a killer breakthrough in
technology that makes it all VERY cheap to build and maintain. If none
of that happens, it will just die out in some areas.

> Consider a standard set of graphics distributed with the user software,
> which can be called within HTML documents and will never be transmitted over
> the network. This would help limit the bandwidth need initially, while still
> providing "flashy" results.

>
> And new "standard" graphics could be distributed as multicast "broadcasts",
> or as packet bulletins, to enlarge the library.

>
> Then we could show how the applications will be so much faster, and be able
> to do much more, if the users contribute to packet network development...

More super-network material! By the way, to most users, the current
string of packet bbs programs are far too complicated already, without
adding more "features". They don't use a tenth of what is there. Is
this a function of usefulness of the features, or apathy of the users?
If apathy, what will help? Certainly, making the features more
standardized and friendly to use will help, but most don't really care to
do anything other than pick up their mail and do an L.

> Comments?

For what they're worth...

> 73, Andy

73 also, Gary

69. [BBSSIG:764] Welcome the

From: sysop@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 04:14:51 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950306215507258@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

-> From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
-> To: bbssig@tapr.org
-> Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 12:20:27 -0600
-> Subject: [BBSSIG:764] Welcome the New Chair of BBSSIG
->
-> Fitting that it take place at the one-year milestone of the BBS Speci
-> Interest Group, a new Chair is announced.
->
-> 73,
->
-> Dave Wolf W05H
-> dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

Welcome aboard Barry, and Dave, thanks for an informative year!

Dan

----- \-----/ -----
Arizona Network Intertie Group
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP	Voice: +1-602-912-5671
P.O. Box 45378	Fax : +1-602-912-0426
Phoenix, Arizona	BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-5378	

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

70. Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJY <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 23:42:13 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503070542.XAA18580@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Proposal for Structured Bulletin Subjects

Why?

- . Improves users ability to search bulletin lists and match specific topics. Existing SUBJ schemes are totally free form and searching for keywords does not always return the best match.
- . Provides BBS authors with the ability to implement more advanced sorting and display algorithms. Both Sysops and user recognize that 300-400 bulletins per day makes the basic 'L' command the least effective way to find items of interest. This also supports requests by users who wish to "subscribe" to certain topics.
- . Users need to develop higher operating skills.
- . Trains users that conformity to standards has its benefits. Selling a 2 meter rig reaches the best audience by targeting readers of SALE.VHF.
- . This could be made to work well with NOS Areas.
- . A logical step to take in a client/server scheme.

Definition

A system of common hierarchical topics and subtopics (2 levels), with open extensions to allow unique groupings of bulletins by subject. Arranged in order from most general to most specific, with "dot" delimiters. This format is intentionally chosen to be similar to the newsgroups used on Internet. Users familiar with that system will immediately see the

benefits as it applies to a PBBS.

The first (highest) levels would be part of the original specification and covers a large number of existing bulletin subjects. This level is the most general.

Level 2 provides greater detail and is more specific than level 1. It provides logical breakdowns of level 1 topics.

For example:	Level 1	Level 2
	SALE	HF
	SALE	VHF
	SALE	ANTENNA

Level 3 and below are unspecified. This allows logical extensions which provide additional detail.

Example: SALE.HF.TS-440
 SALE.HF.KENWOOD TS-440

In order to provide some specific guidelines, Level 1 and Level 2 would be fixed by an initial release of a specification. Periodically, additional L1 and L2 topics would be reviewed, new topics could be added and unused topics removed.

Note that all L2 subtopics do not map to L1 topics. That isn't necessarily a match between all L1 and L2s. For new hot topics, the DEBATE and MISC categories can be used.

I've been running program which examines the TO and SUBJECT fields of all incoming bulletins. Using a "keyword out of context" matching scheme, it is possible to sort approximately 80% of all bulletins into a few specific categories. If the a gross word search works this well, users shouldn't have too much difficulty figuring out the proper topics.

Sending a Bulletin

BBS Users would enter a bulletin in the usual manner:

```
>SB TO @ FLOOD
      where TO can continue to use the same topics (for compatibility).
TO is really meaningless now.
  Subj: Level1.Level2.Level3 comments
      where Level1 and Level2 are from the standard list.
      Level3 is anything
      comment can be whatever, up to the max size for SUBJECT.
```

Examples:
SB sale @ allus
sale.hf.ts-440 real clean

Maybe the BBS code could check the Level1 and Level2 against a list to see if they are valid. If not, the user could be offered the opportunity to revise the SUBJ entry. While this sounds a bit regimented, consider that there are newsgroups are not created on the fly. While there are a million of them, it is important to get the right one.

The following is a list of topics which can be used as a starting point for discussions. Feel free to suggest additions and alternatives.

NASA.NEWS
NASA.SAREX
NASA.MISC

ARRL.NEWS
ARRL.MISC

DX.PROP
DX.NEWS
DX.QSL

DEBATE.YES.xxx xxx = the topic of the month
DEBATE.NO.xxx

SALE.HF
SALE.VHF

SALE.UHF
SALE.COMP
SALE.ANT
SALE.MISC

WANT.HF want has the same L2s as SALE
WANT.VHF
WANT.UHF
WANT.COMP
WANT.ANT
WANT.MISC

HELP.? open to suggestions

AMSAT.KEP
AMSAT.NEWS

MISC.xxx No L2 specified for MISC

In addition, local/regional agreements can be made for L1 and L2.

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

71. Topics vs. Keywords

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 23:48:09 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503070548.XAA18618@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The following is a file which I have used to categorize bulletins.
I have a program which searches bltn TO and SUBJ fields and compares
this to a list of keywords. When a match is found, the bltn is
listed under a specific topic.

The list is of the general format:

Topic
keyword
keyword
..
..
..
EOF

A simple keyword matching routine can correctly match 80% of all
bulletins. Granted a large amount of the correct match is because of
the large quantity of SALE bltns.

Yet it shows that there are a relatively small number of Topics.
Providing a standard set of fields would allow users to easily pick
topics when they enter a bltn.

73 Barry
--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

72. Re: [BBSSIG:755] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 23:57:02 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503070557.XAA18651@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> Hank Oredson wrote:
> >
> > Let's put the question to the group at large:
> >
> > "What can the bbs authors do to take the next giant step forward
> > in promoting the use of the ham radio network."
> >
> > Don't know if Roy would agree, but I think this is a political

> > question rather than a technical question.
> >
>
H. Goldstein wrote:
> Nah, it's an ergonomics question. The software is hard to use. Check in
> once a night and you're still faced with 250 messages to scroll through, and
> most of each line is header information. I plead guilty to this offense in
> my PMS implementation (but there are mitigating circumstances).
>
I think that orgaizing the subjects would be a big help.
In the short term, the solution is to standardize the SUBJ field.
Long term, hmmm... maybe TO should be longer than a callsign.
For bulletins, only 1 field is required, whether it is called TO or
SUBJ or NewsGroup or Topic or whatever, its just a name.

73 Barry

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

73. Re: [BBSSIG:770] Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Mon, 6 Mar 1995 23:43:28 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503062356.A597-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 6 Mar 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

>
> Proposal for Structured Bulletin Subjects

Much deleted...

I buy it! I see problems, but they can be overcome.

> The first (highest) levels would be part of the original specification and
> covers a large number of existing bulletin subjects. This level is the
> most general.
>
> Level 2 provides greater detail and is more specific than level 1. It
> provides logical breakdowns of level 1 topics.
>
> For example:

	Level 1	Level 2
>	SALE	HF
>	SALE	VHF
>	SALE	ANTENNA

Minor adjustment. Wouldn't ANTENNA come as a level 3 entry after HF and
VHF? If you specify ANTENNA, then you should specify RADIO, KEYS, ETC.
Speaking of keys, SALE.MISC would also come into play for that one. I'm
afraid that the number of topics would be very large by the time others
got through picking over it like I am this small segment.

> Level 3 and below are unspecified. This allows logical extensions which
> provide additional detail.
>
> Example:

	SALE.HF.TS-440
>	SALE.HF.KENWOOD TS-440
	^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Are spaces going to be allowed? Is there a period missing there? Makes
more sense with a period.

> In order to provide some specific guidelines, Level 1 and Level 2 would be
> fixed by an initial release of a specification. Periodically, additional
> L1 and L2 topics would be reviewed, new topics could be added and unused
> topics removed.

How would these topics (not the bulletin itself, but the new topic
information) be universally distributed? Would sysops have the option of
not carrying topics they didn't want? How would new topics be added or
removed?

> Sending a Bulletin

> Examples:
> SB sale @ allus
> sale.hf.ts-440 real clean

>
> Maybe the BBS code could check the Level1 and Level2 against a list to see
> if they are valid.

Why maybe? See below.

> If not,
> the user could be offered the opportunity to revise the SUBJ entry. While
> this sounds a bit regimented, consider
> that there are newsgroups are not created on the fly. While there are a
> million of them, it is important to get the right one.

As has been proven for years, it doesn't work that well if it ISN'T
regimented. Structure is needed to properly guide use.

I like it. As my earlier post tonight stated, I think something like
this is needed. Whether this is the exact way to implement it or not, I
don't know. I'm sure someone will try to poke holes in it, but this is
the first sign of a structured system proposal I've seen and I could sure
live with it as I see it so far.

Next shooter? ...

Gary - AG0N

74. Re: [BBSSIG:770] Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.mpcs.com>
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 10:01:50 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503071501.KAA00637@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:
>
> Proposal for Structured Bulletin Subjects
>

Barry put a lot of excellent thought into this scheme. Combine with Gary
McDuffie's .newsrsrc comments and throw in a feature that bounces bulletins
lacking the hier subject back to the sender and this writer thinks we got a
winner.

What thoughts do the guys who have to code this think? Hank? Roy?

Howie

--
Howard Goldstein hg@n2wx.mpcs.com
InfoMotion, Inc. <http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx>

75. Re: [BBSSIG:768] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)
Date: Tue, 07 Mar 1995 11:36:00 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503071635.LAA03180@panix3.panix.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Gary, <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us> wrote:

On Mon, 6 Mar 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:
>
>>
>> What I have in mind is PBBSSs which can (in addition to everything PBBSSs now
>> do) send, either on a scheduled basis or on request, a list of all
>>bulletins
>> on the system -- including the BID. The user program would present this as
>> a pick-list, where desired bulletins would be tagged for later retrieval.
>> (More advanced versions would have the ability to "know" to always get
>> bulletins matching particular criteria.) Then the user program would
>> connect to the PBBSS and tell it which BIDs it wants, and the PBBSS would
>>send them.
>
>All features already included in TPK, but uses msg numbers instead of

>bids, easily changed in code. Not sure how far it goes to toward the
>"advanced" feature.

But doesn't TPK only work with FBB?

I'm proposing an addition to the PBBS specification, so we can have multiple
PBBS and user software "flavors" which can interoperate.

>And while we are at it, let's come up with a way to separate mail and
>bulletins, like internet. Two modules within the BBS could handle the
>two tasks.

Perhaps... But might this be better done by adding RFC-822 style headers to
the messages? If the message has a "Newsgroups:" header it's a bulletin, if
not it's "mail".

>
>In support of an earlier posting, I would also like to see a .nwsrsrc type
>setup, where you could "signup" for what you wanted to see. A command
>would be given to the board to list the available categories (no, not
>like LC), and the user allowed to specify which of those cats were shown
>in his daily listings. When new ones came out, they would be presented
>to him, like a news reader, and asked if he wants to "subscribe" to the
>new ones, one at a time.

If we add "Newsgroups" to "plain vanilla" PBBS bulletins (as opposed to
TCP/IP news) this could be a whole lot more flexible.

>As earlier stated, from a user's point of view, the packet bbs is one of
>the most unfriendly programs around. Each one is different, sometimes
>using the same commands to do completely different operations on each
>board. A more standardized, and MUCH more friendly user interface needs
>to be developed so that the user doesn't have to go through so much pain
>to make use of the local bbs.

Standards - exactly! But not for how the PBBS and the user interact, but
how the PBBS server and the user's client software interact! Then we can
have multiple user client programs, with potentially quite different
interfaces, all interoperating and competing for user acceptance.

-Andy-
--

_____ Tech Producer/Editor WCBS-TV Channel 2 News New York, NY USA		_____ Internet: kb7uv@panix.com http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ --- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE ---
---	--	--

76. Re: [BBSSIG:774] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: Jason A Miller <miller14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu>
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 10:16:34 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SCO.3.91.950307101456.19097A-100000@odi.cwc.whecn.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 7 Mar 1995, Howard Goldstein wrote:

> Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:
> >
> > Proposal for Structured Bulletin Subjects
> >
> >
> > Barry put a lot of excellent thought into this scheme. Combine with Gary
> McDuffie's .nwsrsrc comments and throw in a feature that bounces bulletins
> lacking the hier subject back to the sender and this writer thinks we got a
> winner.
> >
> > What thoughts do the guys who have to code this think? Hank? Roy?
> >
> > Howie
> >
> >
> > --
> > Howard Goldstein
> > InfoMotion, Inc.

hg@n2wx.mpcs.com

http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx

>

Personally, I think this is an idea that's worth trying out. It would give readers the opportunity to skim through the messages if they want to read the subject and trash it if they don't.

>>> Jason A Miller, KB7YWI

miller14@odi.cwc.whecn.edu

77. Re: [BBSSIG:775] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 10:55:54 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503071002.A15665-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 7 Mar 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:

> Gary, <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us> wrote:

>

>

>

>

>

> On Mon, 6 Mar 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:

> >

> >>

Some deleted

> >All features already included in TPK, but uses msg numbers instead of
> >bids, easily changed in code. Not sure how far it goes to toward the
> >"advanced" feature.

>

> But doesn't TPK only work with FBB?

Yes, I'm just saying that it already exist, albeit in only one or two programs (someone posted something about another program that works without having direct access to the FBB board???).

> I'm proposing an addition to the PBBS specification, so we can have multiple
> PBBS and user software "flavors" which can interoperate.

The more, the better.

> >And while we are at it, let's come up with a way to separate mail and
> >bulletins, like internet. Two modules within the BBS could handle the
> >two tasks.

>

> Perhaps... But might this be better done by adding RFC-822 style headers to
> the messages? If the message has a "Newsgroups:" header it's a bulletin, if
> not it's "mail".

I'm not familiar with how that operates and probably wouldn't have time to muddle through it right now anyway (RFC-822). Whatever it takes.

> >In support of an earlier posting, I would also like to see a .nwsrsrc type
> >setup, where you could "signup" for what you wanted to see. A command
> >would be given to the board to list the available categories (no, not
> >like LC), and the user allowed to specify which of those cats were shown
> >in his daily listings. When new ones came out, they would be presented
> >to him, like a news reader, and asked if he wants to "subscribe" to the
> >new ones, one at a time.

>

>

> If we add "Newsgroups" to "plain vanilla" PBBS bulletins (as opposed to
> TCP/IP news) this could be a whole lot more flexible.

Maybe I'm missing something. I'm assuming that the "groups" would REPLACE all bulletins. Why would you need "plain vanilla bulletins" if you have newsgroups?

> >As earlier stated, from a user's point of view, the packet bbs is one of
> >the most unfriendly programs around. Each one is different, sometimes
> >using the same commands to do completely different operations on each
> >board. A more standardized, and MUCH more friendly user interface needs
> >to be developed so that the user doesn't have to go through so much pain
> >to make use of the local bbs.

>

> Standards - exactly! But not for how the PBBS and the user interact, but
> how the PBBS server and the user's client software interact! Then we can

> have multiple user client programs, with potentially quite different
> interfaces, all interoperating and competing for user acceptance.

I still think (at least in some backwoods areas like mine) the user interface has to be standardized, at least to a certain extent. There are too many people on packet who barely know how to turn on the computer, much less learn different software. Yes, definitely standardize the client software interface to the bbs. That way, any good programmer can come up with something new to try.

Does this mean that each user will be required to run a client program? Why not? He has to run SOME sort of terminal program, why not make it a packet specific one? I see nothing wrong with that. Just make it something that there are plenty of free copies of so that it isn't an obstacle. A generic client program could even be bundled with the latest KPS-27 or MFJ-3R56 whiz-bang TNC. The user takes it home, plugs it in, installs it, and is on the air with an intelligent client interface to his local board.

I buy it.

>
>
> -Andy-
> --
> _____ Andrew Funk, KB7UV _____

73, Gary

78. FBB user program?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 12:32:40 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503071832.MAA20888@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Someone posted a msg about a program that works with FBB and possibly captures items being sent to other users. This is more than TPK functionality

Can you send this information again and provide more details?

Thanks,
Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

79. Re: [BBSSIG:772] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: lawrence@combdyn.com (Lawrence *The Dreamer* Chen)
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 95 10:23:18 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503071723.AA19895@combdyn>
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Barry Buelow WA0RJT:

> H. Goldstein wrote:
> > Nah, it's an ergonomics question. The software is hard to use. Check in
> > once a night and you're still faced with 250 messages to scroll through, and
> > most of each line is header information. I plead guilty to this offense in
> > my PMS implementation (but there are mitigating circumstances).
> >
> I think that orgaizing the subjects would be a big help.
> In the short term, the solution is to standardize the SUBJ field.
> Long term, hmmm... maybe T0 should be longer than a callsign.
> For bulletins, only 1 field is required, whether it is called T0 or
> SUBJ or NewsGroup or Topic or whatever, its just a name.
>

Hmmm...my local packet population came up with a better solution for dealing with the daily flood of bulletins. They kept complaining about there being too much bulletins on the air (none of them could be bothered to leave packet messages or talk to me directly...they'd much rather tie up the repeaters knowing full well I can't respond because the only working radios I have left are on the packet system, I have the collection of dead radios and TNCs to show for it). Well, I pulled

Now half of the same lot and some new ones are complaining about the lack of traffic.

Since I liked having the bulletins flowing...and as a SYSOP it doesn't make sense to cripple a network just because the entire local population of Amateurs are jerks. I'm going to hook things back up again...with one exception since the other local BBS won't forward any bulletins it get's in to me...I won't bother forwarding any of mine to him. That way if you don't like seeing lots of new messages when you connect to a packet BBS, you can connect to that system.

```
--
WORK: lawrence@combdyn.com      | PHONE 403 529 2162 | FAX 529 2516 | VE6LKC
HOME: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca |    403 526 6019 |    529 5102 | VE6PAQ
-----
Praxis Society K12 BBS - 403 529 1610 | Lunatic Haven BBS - 403 526 6957
-----
disclaimer = (working for && !representing) + (Combustion Dynamics Ltd.);
```

From: nuucp@gw2.att.com
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 95 15:52:12 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503072053.0AA02113@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

[Empty message body]

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 16:00:20 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503071544.A4962-0100000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 7 Mar 1995, Lawrence *The Dreamer* Chen wrote:

I am NOT trying to be picky or negative, or to pick on Lawrence specifically, but after seeing many of these types of statements, I thought it was time for a refresher.....

If it cannot move keyboarders traffic, it is not a network. If it can't pass IP, it is not a network. If it only passes PBBS traffic, it is a PBBS dedicated point-to-point channel, and is NOT a part of the network.

If we build a network, we will have PBBS-to-PBBS connectivity. If we build PBBS links, we will NOT have a network.

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel like it)
```

```
        make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
    gates_bank_balance++;
}
```

82. Re: [BBSSIG:779] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 16:01:35 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503072201.QAA21784@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Lawrence ve6lkc wrote:

> Hmmm...my local packet population came up with a better solution for
> dealing with the daily flood of bulletins. They kept complaining
> about there being too much bulletins on the air (none of them could be
> bothered to leave packet messages or talk to me directly...they'd much
> rather tie up the repeaters knowing full well I can't respond because
> the only working radios I have left are on the packet system, I have
> the collection of dead radios and TNCs to show for it). Well, I pulled
> the plug of forwarding...now there are none. Suddenly some of there
> Private mail is falling into the bit bucket, as are some of their
> outgoing bulletins. But, they didn't want to deal with 200+ bulletins

Not a good way to win friends.

> Since I liked having the bulletins flowing...and as a SYSOP it doesn't make
> sense to cripple a network just because the entire local population of
> Amateurs are jerks. I'm going to hook things back up again...with one
> exception since the other local BBS won't forward any bulletins it get's in
> to me...I won't bother forwarding any of mine to him. That way if you don't
> like seeing lots of new messages when you connect to a packet BBS, you can
> connect to that system.

>

> --

> WORK: lawrence@combdyn.com | PHONE 403 529 2162 | FAX 529 2516 | VE6LKC
> HOME: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca | 403 526 6019 | 529 5102 | VE6PAQ

Well, you can do whatever you want, but the users will go to the BBS that
gives them the best service.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

83. Re: [BBSSIG:779] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.mpcs.com>
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 22:49:26 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503080349.WAA00325@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Lawrence *The Dreamer* Chen wrote:

>

> According to Barry Buelow WA0RJT:

> > H. Goldstein wrote:

> > > Nah, it's an ergonomics question. The software is hard to use. Check in
> > > once a night and you're still faced with 250 messages to scroll through, and
> > > most of each line is header information. I plead guilty to this offense in
> > > my PMS implementation (but there are mitigating circumstances).

> > >

> > I think that orgaizing the subjects would be a big help.

> > In the short term, the solution is to standardize the SUBJ field.

> > Long term, hmmm... maybe TO should be longer than a callsign.

> > For bulletins, only 1 field is required, whether it is called TO or

> > SUBJ or NewsGroup or Topic or whatever, its just a name.

> >

>

> Hmmm...my local packet population came up with a better solution for
> dealing with the daily flood of bulletins. They kept complaining
> about there being too much bulletins on the air (none of them could be
> bothered to leave packet messages or talk to me directly...they'd much
> rather tie up the repeaters knowing full well I can't respond because
> the only working radios I have left are on the packet system, I have
> the collection of dead radios and TNCs to show for it). Well, I pulled
> the plug of forwarding...now there are none. Suddenly some of there
> Private mail is falling into the bit bucket, as are some of their

> outgoing bulletins. But, they didn't want to deal with 200+ bulletins
> each day....especially the ones that only connect once a month.

Lawrence's message leaves me looking like I owe Hank an apology. Sorry Hank.

In some areas, vindictiveness, mean-spirited folk, and politics appear to be significant factors in the bulletin overload problem. Perhaps I was being too provincial viewing this as something amenable to a technical fix. In my area, and speaking only with respect to my LAN, the tech approach would be of immense help.

But then, like Lawrence, I too might be a dreamer. So please excuse me while I go pull out an old aerosmith album, pop open a cold one, and dream on some more.

Howie

--

Howard Goldstein
InfoMotion, Inc.

hg@n2wx.mpcs.com
<http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx>

84. Re: [BBSSIG:778] FBB user program?

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 00:09:59 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503080409.AA26769@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Someone posted a msg about a program that works with FBB and possibly
>captures items being sent to other users. This is more than TPK functionality
>
>Can you send this information again and provide more details?
>
>Thanks,
>Barry

I just downloaded it but havnt had time to set it up yet. Here is the
readme.txt:
11-July-1994

Version 2.21e of the G8NPF Personal Message System (NPFPMs) is now available as a self-exploding file 'NPF221E.EXE'. NPFPMs is designed to be used with G8BPQ node software (version 4.05 or greater) on PC-AT class (286 and higher) machines. New functions and improvements since the last Internet release (version 2.20a) include:-

- + A 'pop up' window is now used for displaying the progress of file transfers and compressed forwarding, and for some editor functions.
- + Parts of the binary compression system have been re-written to improve efficiency, and to remove the need for some temporary files.
- + Option to save messages deleted from the PMS message base, to a specified directory, which may now be on a different drive.
- + NNA bulk forwarding supported.
- + Several bug fixes (ie System Error msg 5/6).

For further information and to register, please contact

Ted Harrison
5 Nelson Gardens
Braintree
Essex
England
CM7 6TG

Phone (+44) 0376 342144
NTS G8NPF@GB7ESX.#31.GBR.EU
Internet tedharrison@cix.compulink.co.uk
AMPRNet 44.131.185.66 g8npf@g8npf.ampr.org

Please supply a suitable formatted disk, plus packaging/postage.
Suitable disks are MSDOS formatted 3.5" 720K or 1.44M (1.44M is best)

The PMS code is also available on internet on:
ftp.demon.co.uk (158.152.1.69) as /pub/ham/NPFxxxx.EXE
ftp.funet.fi (128.214.248.6) as pub/ham/packet/misc/NPFxxxx.EXE

(xxxx = version number), and possibly from other 'Ham Radio' internet sites. It may also be found on some landline BBS systems. (i.e. Ted Batts's PACKET BBS on 0815471479)

*** Beware of old, outdated, versions floating around. Check the file date!

The PMS is written to run as an application under BPQcode (4.05 or greater). The computer should be a 286/386/486 PC compatible. The PMS code will NOT work on a XT (8086/8088 cpu) system, sorry!
The PMS requires MSDOS >=3.3 or DRDOS >=5.0, and 640K ram. It will also run as a DOS application under OS/2, WINDOWS and DESQview. A hard disk is essential and a reasonably fast PC is advisable. I use a 386SX 25Mhz PC.

The PMS includes virtually all 'BBS' commands, most of which have been modified to suit a PMS, rather than a BBS, system. It features, among other things;

Multi-user access. 'Simultaneous' operation on all channels.
YAPP binary file transfers and Ascii file transfers.
YAPP 'crash recovery' and YappC checksum protocols.
Automatic message forwarding.
NNA compatible bulk compressed message forwarding.
FBB compatible bulk ascii & compressed message forwarding.
FBB 'ACK:' type messages.
REQDIR, REQFIL, FNDFIL and WP servers.
Automatic date-expired message killing/deleting.
Automatic Listing and Reading of mail on the local NTSBBS.
Automatic message list updating from FBB 'Unproto broadcasts'.
Full function text editor.
Local terminal mode, with all normal terminal functions.
Remote SysOp access.
User database and WP database.
Usage & error Log.
Multi-colour displays.
Automatic password verification when forwarding to/from a BBS using NNA version v2.03 (April 93) or later.
FBB password support.

.....plus lots more.

85. Re: [BBSSIG:779] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 00:10:04 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503080410.AA26809@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>>
>
>the plug of forwarding....now there are none. Suddenly some of there
>Private mail is falling into the bit bucket, as are some of their
>outgoing bulletins. But, they didn't want to deal with 200+ bulletins
>each day....especially the ones that only connect once a month.
>
>Now half of the same lot and some new ones are complaining about the lack
>of traffic.
>
>Since I liked having the bulletins flowing...and as a SYSOP it doesn't make
>sense to cripple a network just because the entire local population of
>Amateurs are jerks. I'm going to hook things back up again...with one
>exception since the other local BBS won't forward any bulletins it get's in
>to me...I won't bother forwarding any of mine to him. That way if you don't
>like seeing lots of new messages when you connect to a packet BBS, you can
>connect to that system.
>
>--
> WORK: lawrence@combdyn.com | PHONE 403 529 2162 | FAX 529 2516 | VE6LKC
> HOME: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca | 403 526 6019 | 529 5102 | VE6PAQ
> -----

It is unfortunate that the Packet BBS system has become the PUBLIC PACKET BROADCASTING SYSTEM. If BBS continue to carry or fwd anything & everything the Networks will continue to overload. I have no problem with Personal Mail but the FOR-SALE or SOAPBOX bulletins surely dont deserve International coverage. Keep the bulletins local/regional and only fwd outside of that for formal bulletins
from recognised Amateur Groups/Organizations eg:ARRL, AMSAT, RAC, RSGB whatever.
If Sysops were deligent about educating their users and at the same time making

good use of the REJECT.SYS file we could cut environmental was by 2/3rds.

Occasionally I get see flak about "censorship" but then what commercial radio station do you know of where you can just walk in and insist that your veiws/information be broadcast.

73 - Ron
velaia@velaia.pe.can

86. Re: [BBSSIG:762] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: vodall@mtewe.UUCP
Date: Tue, 7 Mar 1995 14:09:01 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <m0rm6V7-0002gQC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Andrew beat me to it with his suggestions...

> Perhaps one problem is that PBBS software expects users to have dumb
> terminals.

Amen.. The "standard" packet scenario is right out of the 70's... It consists of slow dumb terminals connected to time share servers. No wonder there are more TNC's in closets than turned on. And no wonder so many folks have tried packet and don't think it's fun.

> Yes, everyone could run TCP/IP.

TCP/IP is a step in the right direction. But only with one foot. It puts a lot of the work onto the computer where it belongs for mail and forwarding. But it still doesn't allow real use of the computers on the system. The applications are static. Hard coded. . Except for some gonzo guru programmers that are making changes to the 3+ Mbytes of source code there's not much that can be done with the system.

[JT]NOS on Linux is another step forward - but again it's just too big, complicated and expensive.

We need a packet scheme where folks can build mail servers, chess, trade wars or adventure game servers, even hardware interfaces. You can check the temperature of some folks beer cooler via the Internet - there's no reason the same can't be done on packet...

> What I have in mind is PBBSs which can (in addition to everything PBBSs now

Yes... And that would be just the start!

> a personal Packet Radio MailBox to go with the PRMBS PBBS.

Let's not limit it to being a Personal Mailbox - but rather a Personal interface into an whole world of computer services. One that is easy to use for an end user. (Window'ish, graphical...) And one that is easy to program and to add to for somebody with basic level computer skills. (Some like Visual Basic?)

> If the codesmiths spec'd this and wrote the user code for the platforms they
> are familiar with, and it becomes popular, then other software authors could
> write user code for other platforms.

Let's build a platform so that everybody can be a "software author". Give the poor overworked and under-appreciated dozen or so folks that are at it now a break.

> (And if a multi-cast protocol ever gets widely used terrestrially it could be
> incorporated into the user code.)

This is (IM!HO) the second key to the next step in out packet networks. There's so much more that can be done by developing and using some broadcast protocols... The current store and forward (and forward and forward) system of distributing information is highly inefficient. Slow is one thing. Doing it poorly besides is another...

> And another thought --

>

> Consider a standard set of graphics distributed with the user software,
> which can be called within HTML documents and will never be transmitted over
> the network. This would help limit the bandwidth need initially, while still

> providing "flashy" results.

You bet!!! A single packet to display object #1234 at location XX,YY in color C would be easy. And we could develop rules for new pictures and objects. Something like a color Postscript language.

> And new "standard" graphics could be distributed as multicast "broadcasts",
> or as packet bulletins, to enlarge the library.

YES!

> Then we could show how the applications will be so much faster, and be able
> to do much more, if the users contribute to packet network development...

AMEN! I feel like I've been to a revival meeting....

> Comments?

Let's start designing this!

> 73, Andy

87. info

From: techman@ace.com (Techman)
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 95 02:37:12 EST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503100237.0.UUL1.3#25274@ace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

subscribe

88. SIG -> Packet ?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 08:45:58 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503101445.IAA07821@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi

I'm aware that a few people are converting the BBSSIG to the BBS system in a few locations. It is also going into NOS and into a newsgroup.

One of the comments at the BBSSIG meeting was that Sysops who are not on Internet can't really see what TAPR is doing. They aren't given the opportunity to participate in the discussions. I don't think it would be wise to copy everything from the SIG to ALLUS, but summaries could be posted periodically.

I would like to see how many places are doing this. Can you post a short msg telling where you are and what translation is being done?

Also, if you are interested in posting BBSSIG summaries to packet, please let me know. I will be preparing a summary on a regular basis and post it here with a proper header and preassigned BID. All you have to do is a bit of cut and paste to put it on packet.

Comments?

73 Barry
--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

89. Re: [BBSSIG:788] SIG -> Packet ?

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 09:01:23 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950310085424.1238B-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 10 Mar 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Hi
>
> I'm aware that a few people are converting the BBSSIG to the BBS system
> in a few locations. It is also going into NOS and into a newsgroup.

Barry, I am zipping each weeks TAPR SIG's and they are being ftp'd to Deming, NM where there is no internet access. I also keep them on my nos which can be accessed by any ham on packet radio in Las Cruces, NM and El Paso Texas using either 1200 or 9600 baud packet.

>
> One of the comments at the BBSSIG meeting was that Sysops who are not
> on Internet can't really see what TAPR is doing. They aren't given
> the opportunity to participate in the discussions. I don't think
> it would be wise to copy everything from the SIG to ALLUS, but
> summaries could be posted periodically.

Since the QST Packet paper of last year ALLUS = USA ...:-)

>
> I would like to see how many places are doing this. Can you post a
> short msg telling where you are and what translation is being done?
>
> Also, if you are interested in posting BBSSIG summaries to packet,
> please let me know. I will be preparing a summary on a regular
> basis and post it here with a proper header and preassigned BID.
> All you have to do is a bit of cut and paste to put it on packet.
>

That is a good idea Barry! You do all the work and I will sure enter it into my pbbs! That will assure the Mountain Zone gets the word...

> Comments?
>
> 73 Barry
> --
>
> Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
> barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
>
>

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

90. BBS Profile Form

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 11:52:54 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503101752.LAA08390@allanon.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

In order to gauge what various BBS's are seeing for traffic, using for hardware and running for programs, I would like to have some Sysops tell a little about their systems.

If you are interested in telling the world about your BBS, please complete the form below and send it back to me directly. I'll clean them up and may ask a few more questions. Then once a month or so, I'll post one of these surveys.

tnx & 73,
Barry

***** BBS Profile *****

Name:
Callsign:
BBS Location: (city, state)
BBS Program: (FBB, RLI, RE, etc.)
Service Area:

92. DRSI PCPA Clone ??

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 15:16:59 -0800
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503102314.PAA02123@ux5.lbl.gov>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I read a packet bulletin last week from a disgruntled DRSI customer who rummored that another firm was about to release a PCPA clone. Anyone here know anything (about this !) ??

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

93. Re: [BBSSIG:788] SIG -> Packet ?

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 20:35:14 -0400
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503110035.AA24942@bud.peinet.pe.ca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>I would like to see how many places are doing this. Can you post a
>short msg telling where you are and what translation is being done?
>

>Also, if you are interested in posting BBSSIG summaries to packet,
>please let me know. I will be preparing a summary on a regular
>basis and post it here with a proper header and preassigned BID.
>All you have to do is a bit of cut and paste to put it on packet.

>
>Comments?
>

>73 Barry
>--
>

>Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
>barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
>

>
Barry a few times there were "TAPR" bulletins posted here but they did not have BID info and so I copied them to my BBS but did not fwd them beyond that.

It might be a good idea to create TAPR info-bulletins occasionally and let the Sysops fwd them in their local/regional distribution.

73 - Ron
velaic

94. Re: [BBSSIG:788] SIG -> Packet ?

From: jbrooks@INS.INFONET.NET
Date: Sat, 11 Mar 1995 00:17:08 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <0098D2CD.E928FF2D.121@INS.INFONET.NET>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> Return-Path: <bbssig@tapr.org>
> Received: from dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com by INS.INFONET.NET (MX V4.1 AXP)
> SMTP; Fri, 10 Mar 1995 08:56:19 CST
> Received: from dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com (localhost [127.0.0.1]) by
> dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com (8.6.10/8.6.9) with SMTP id IAA19737;
> 10 Mar 1995 08:57:27 -0600
> Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 08:57:27 -0600
> Message-ID: <199503101445.IAA07821@allanon.ia.net>
> Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org
> Originator: bbssig@tapr.org
> Sender: bbssig@tapr.org
> Precedence: bulk
> From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
> To: bbssig@tapr.org
> Subject: [BBSSIG:788] SIG -> Packet ?
> X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
> X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group
> Content-Length: 983
> Content-Type: text
> X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL23]
>

> Hi

>
> I'm aware that a few people are converting the BBSSIG to the BBS system

> in a few locations. It is also going into NOS and into a newsgroup.
 >
 > One of the comments at the BBSSIG meeting was that Sysops who are not
 > on Internet can't really see what TAPR is doing. They aren't given
 > the opportunity to participate in the discussions. I don't think
 > it would be wise to copy everything from the SIG to ALLUS, but
 > summaries could be posted periodically.
 >
 > I would like to see how many places are doing this. Can you post a
 > short msg telling where you are and what translation is being done?
 >
 > Also, if you are interested in posting BBSSIG summaries to packet,
 > please let me know. I will be preparing a summary on a regular
 > basis and post it here with a proper header and preassigned BID.
 > All you have to do is a bit of cut and paste to put it on packet.
 >
 > Comments?
 >
 > 73 Barry
 > --
 >
 > Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
 > barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
 >

Great idea, Barry! I've taken individual items on occasion and passed them along to several of the sysops in this area that don't have internet access, and there's a lot more that I should have passed along, but didn't. I'd be happy to grab summaries and paste 'em into bulletins for distribution to the sysops in Kansas.

73 de Jim, K0JJV

95. Re: [BBSSIG:794] Re: SIG -> Packet ?

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
 Date: Sat, 11 Mar 1995 11:02:19 -0700 (MST)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503111032.A10674-0100000@hannibal>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

> > I would like to see how many places are doing this. Can you post a
 > > short msg telling where you are and what translation is being done?
 > >
 > > Also, if you are interested in posting BBSSIG summaries to packet,
 > > please let me know. I will be preparing a summary on a regular
 > > basis and post it here with a proper header and preassigned BID.
 > > All you have to do is a bit of cut and paste to put it on packet.
 > >
 > > Comments?
 > > barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
 > >
 > >
 > Great idea, Barry! I've taken individual items on occasion and passed them
 > along to several of the sysops in this area that don't have internet access,
 > and there's a lot more that I should have passed along, but didn't. I'd be
 > happy to grab summaries and paste 'em into bulletins for distribution to the
 > sysops in Kansas.
 >
 > 73 de Jim, K0JJV

I'm two hops from JJV (one hf and one vhf) and would also be interested in posting summaries. I have also put selected excerpts out to one or two sysops and for local reading, and would like to see more widespread release. But, a proper ORIGINATING bid is needed, of course.

Gary - AG0N

96. Re: [BBSSIG:788] SIG -> Packet ?

From: k0hyd@southwind.net (Dale L. Puckett)
 Date: Sun, 12 Mar 1995 11:10:24 -0600
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <v01510100ab88daeffd5c@[44.122.0.4]>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

>Also, if you are interested in posting BBSSIG summaries to packet,
 >please let me know. I will be preparing a summary on a regular
 >basis and post it here with a proper header and preassigned BID.

Barry, I will be very happy to post the BBSSIG summaries here in SCKS.

I've been wanting to do that for awhile but haven't had the time to figure out how to translate the Eudora mailer files on my Mac to a NOS Area format I can put on my TNOS BBS.

Staying Tuned!

73 de Dale
INTERNET: k0hyd@southwind.net
AMPR: k0hyd@k0hyd.#scks.ks.usa.noam [44.122.0.4]
WWW: www.southwind.net/~k0hyd
FTP: ftp.southwind.net/u/k/k0hyd
Dale L. Puckett, 23440 West Highway 54,
Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2347)

97. unsubscribe

From: fmitchell@rdcclink.rd.qms.com
Date: Sun, 12 Mar 95 16:29:59 CST
To: netsig@tapr.org, bbssig@tapr.org, hfsig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9502127950.AA795054599@rdcclink.rd.qms.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

unsubscribe fmitch@rd.qms.com
subscribe fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us

98. Re: [BBSSIG:797] unsubscribe

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
Date: Sun, 12 Mar 1995 19:01:50 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503130101.TAA11696@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

If this didn't work, try sending it to:
listproc@tapr.org

unsibscribe bbssig fmitch@rd.qms.com
^--need to give the list name

73 Barry
>
>
>
>
> unsubscribe fmitch@rd.qms.com
> subscribe fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us
>

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

99. BBSSIG St Loius Meeting Notes

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 1995 14:40:17 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503132040.OAA15965@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

SB TAPR @ USA \$BBSIG_950311
TAPR.NEWS BBSSIG Meeting Summary

About 20 people attended the BBSSIG meeting in St. Louis, MO. This was part of the TAPR Annual Meeting.

This bulletin is presented as a service by TAPR, to inform and involve Sysops in determining good operating practice and working toward common goals.

With a small group, it was a nice opportunity to let each person speak about their individual concerns. Comments ranged through the usual Sysop issues. Under the category of long standing problems:

- newer Sysops reported problems understanding BBS docs,
- the size and quantity of header lines was mentioned, and
- problems with forwards to personal mailboxes (TNC built-in feature).

Several new items prompted some discussions. There was interest in having a msg type 'E' for emergency traffic. A priority scheme would

forward types E, T, P and B in that order. At least one BBS supports multiple msg types and most either forward according to priorities or can be configured to do so.

Regarding user interface, it seems that users spend a lot of time listing the large number of bulletins. The 'L' command uses a lot of channel capacity. More efficient mechanisms need to be developed for users to list and search bulletins.

There seems to be little support for redistribution lists. This is the practice of sending multiple personal msgs rather than sending a single bulletin. It was not viewed as an effective use of the network.

For NTS traffic, it was suggested that the BBS prompt the user in a "fill in the blanks process". This would result in more consistent traffic and teach users to use proper formats.

In the area of future systems, brief mention was made of a few new topics being discussed in the Internet BBSSIG. Of great interest is the discussion of client/server programs. One feature these programs might incorporate would be capturing bulletins being downloaded to other users. In theory, each bulletin would be read only once and all stations would capture it. This is the same scheme that AMSAT is using on the microsats.

Also getting a few comments was the thought of changing the format of the SUBJECT field on current bulletins. A set of standard topics would be created, similar to the newsgroups used on Internet. Users would send bulletins and include the standardized topics in the SUBJECT field. In the future, the BBS or client program would tag bulletins which meet the users interests.

The next meeting of the BBSSIG will be held on Saturday evening at the Dayton Hamvention. In order to provide some structure to the meeting, an agenda will be prepared and a number of specific topics will be addressed.

Send comments to the station that posted this bulletin in your area or to:

Barry WA0RJT @ WA0RJT.IA.USA.NA
or via Internet barry@ia.net

73 Barry

100. Continuing discussions

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 1995 14:41:43 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503132041.0AA15981@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I would like to continue the discussion of a couple of important topics. In order to facilitate specific discussions, I have requested that several additional lists be established on the TAPR list server. These will be assigned to specific working groups developing recommendations and specifications. My intention is that only the active, working group members subscribe to these lists. Operating in this environment, the participants have a convenient communications mechanism and they are insulated from the day-to-day distractions of the SIG.

Membership in the working groups is open to anyone, but the intention is to make real progress on an issue and report the results back to the BBSSIG. You don't have to be a technical specialist to participate, just be willing to contribute. The groups primary task is to formulate a recommendation. Someone in the group may act as a recording secretary or I will perform that task.

One issue to address is USER EDUCATION. The idea is to send packet bulletins which can be retained at each BBS. This idea received several favorable comments. I don't want to dictate a complete structure and set of operating instructions. This is a issue which requires comments from a knowledgeable base of Sysops. Participation of the BBSSIG members is very important and I encourage it! After the entire BBSSIG has had an opportunity to comment, the issue will be passed to a working group.

Another topic which could be addressed by a working group is the STRUCTURED SUBJECT field concept. An informal proposal has been made, but this needs much more input. I know that several people have written programs to analyze the TO and SUBJECTs of bulletins. This is an opportunity to

convert that experience into a recommendation and hopefully a specification.

If you're interested in participating in a working group on either of these topics, please reply to the SIG or send me a private message.

73 Barry

101. [BBSSIG:799] BBSSIG St Loius Meeting Notes

From: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 95 13:45:10 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503132150.PAA07220@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Ref: Your note of Mon, 13 Mar 1995 14:46:11 -0600

The current ARES standard here is classes "S", "U", "V", "W", "X", "Y" and "Z". These were picked so that forwarding priority is basically reverse alphabetical sort. "Z" being highest and "B" being lowest.

Roy

102. Re: [BBSSIG:800] Continuing discussions

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Mon, 13 Mar 1995 15:25:45 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950313152208.9707A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Barry, I brought a copy of the paper I am wrtiting on the use of the bpq switch to St. Louis. I don't know if you got it or not. I think there is about 2 weeks more work on the paper and than it will be ready for a critical review.

If you feel this is not useful let me know and I will stop the effort. If you want to see where it is now I can get a copy to you.

73, karl k5di

103. Filling in the blanks

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 1995 08:09:57 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950314080948_48951952@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Barry - thanks very much for taking the time to post the bulletin here about the St. Louis meeting. This way, obviously, folks like myself who couldn't attend but who are very much interested in one or more of the topics presented can learn and -- hopefully -- contribute.

With regard to contributing, I'd like to point out that I was interested in the paragraph about the NTS fill-in-the-blanks aspects of future BBS code.

After twenty some odd years of NTS traffic handling and seven years of professionally administering the ARRL's National Traffic System, it's very clear to me why the idea is a good one. As is the case with most of the volunteer programs within the Amateur Radio Service, a lot of newcomers with the best of intentions pop up, trying to serve the public, but not quite knowing how to do it best. Or at all.

"But gee, this looks simple, I just log onto my local BBS, use the ST command, and presto, my message for Outer Slobovia is on its way". Of course, there IS no national traffic system in O.S. and the message is formatted in such a way that the non-digital volunteers who may eventually be relaying the message are frustrated by improper format, disallowed punctuation, lack of check, etc.

So clearly, the notion of providing some assistance from within the BBS code is a good one. Except that it may be a LOT more complicated than you realize, particularly if it's to be done right.

I'd like to offer my expertise if it's desired. More importantly, I think the BBSSIG forum is an excellent place to debate the merits of how to implement such a scheme from within the code; we can all learn from each other's experiences, certainly.

In the meantime, I've been working on a piece of software myself, which is

about 90 percent completed. Originally, it was for the 1995 International Special Olympics, but I realized early on that -- if I did it correctly -- it was very likely useful for any number of large scale NTS traffic efforts. It does several things that present NTS-generation software does NOT; but most importantly, it allows the public (rather than Amateur Radio control operators) to generate traffic on their own, in a graphically-rich software environment. Secondly, it allows the generation of digitized voice messages, should the groups using the software have the Internet capabilities to route them. In the case of the Special Olympics, we have a cadre of people throughout Europe, and a few other places, who have agreed to take the "voicegrams" via the Internet and deliver them. They, the voicegrams, are somewhat larger (about 40K for 15 second message) than we're used to seeing on AX.25 PBBSs, certainly, but I think you'll agree that it's an arguably "better" (more interesting) way of serving the public than we've been able to do via Amateur Radio to date. If the sponsoring groups (amateur or otherwise) decide to use this feature, fine; it's there. It'll be fun to see...

At any rate, my combination of experiences at National Traffic System administration at the ARRL HQ level, and the coding of this software may very well be of value to those of you who decide to implement a fill-in-the-blanks feature for NTS traffic on your BBSs. I'd be more than happy to share with you what I feel to be important issues, so that we can all broach them together and hopefully find useful solutions.

73

```
-----
Luck Hurder, KY1T      ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
AX.25 - KY1T@N4GAA.CT  TCP/IP - 44.88.2.59 (KY1T-2)
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA
-----
```

104. Re: [BBSSIG:774] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

```
From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 95 10:37:52 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503141037.ZM25018@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

```
On Mar 7, 10:12am, Howard Goldstein wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:774] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects
> Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:
> >
> > Proposal for Structured Bulletin Subjects
> >
>
> Barry put a lot of excellent thought into this scheme. Combine with Gary
> McDuffie's .newsrsrc comments and throw in a feature that bounces bulletins
> lacking the hier subject back to the sender and this writer thinks we got a
> winner.
>
> What thoughts do the guys who have to code this think? Hank? Roy?
```

I have no interest in adding yet another bandaid to the bbs protocol.

If we wish news-like characteristics, we should simply use the rfc-822 manner of interchange for this data. It's simple, it's in use, it works.

```
... Hank

>
> Howie
>
>
> --
> Howard Goldstein
>
> InfoMotion, Inc.
>
> hg@n2wx.mpcs.com
>
> http://dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org/~n2wx
>-- End of excerpt from Howard Goldstein

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics      Library Operations
Internet      : hank_oredson@mentorg.com  "Parts 'R Us!"
```

105. Re: [BBSSIG:781] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 95 10:41:39 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503141041.ZM25038@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 7, 3:07pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:781] Re: [14] Re: What a thought!
> On Tue, 7 Mar 1995, Lawrence *The Dreamer* Chen wrote:
>
> > Since I liked having the bulletins flowing...and as a SYSOP it doesn't make
> > sense to cripple a network just because the entire local population of
> > Amateurs are jerks. I'm going to hook things back up again...with one
> > exception since the other local BBS won't forward any bulletins it get's in
> > to me...I won't bother forwarding any of mine to him. That way if you
don't
> > like seeing lots of new messages when you connect to a packet BBS, you can
> > connect to that system.
>
> I am NOT trying to be picky or negative, or to pick on Lawrence
> specifically, but after seeing many of these types of statements, I
> thought it was time for a refresher.....

I will try to be a bit picky, but not negative.

>
> The process of forwarding PBBS messages is NOT a real "network". A
> network is the "pipe" that connects together distant points and allows a
> variety of different users and usages. This form of PBBS-only usage is
> commonly mistaken for a "network", when it is simply a PBBS-only
> point-to-point link.

It's a network. Good heavens, not all networks are realtime connected,
not all networks pass all protocols, not all networks support all possible
services. Saying "It's not a network" is simply not a useful comment.

>
> If it cannot move keyboarders traffic, it is not a network. If it can't
> pass IP, it is not a network. If it only passes PBBS traffic, it is a
> PBBS dedicated point-to-point channel, and is NOT a part of the network.
>
> Is that to say that these kinds of PBBS links are bad? Of course not!
> Let's just not fool ourselves into thinking that we are building a
> network with this, when all we are doing is passing messages.
>
> If we build a network, we will have PBBS-to-PBBS connectivity. If we
> build PBBS links, we will NOT have a network.
>
>

> -----
> Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

>
> REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
> while (memory_available) {
> eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
> if (feel_like_it)
> make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
> gates_bank_balance++;
> }
>
>

>-- End of excerpt from Brian A. Lantz

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

106. Re: [BBSSIG:803] Filling in the blanks

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 1995 18:46:28 -0600 (CST)

To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503150046.SAA22786@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> Barry - thanks very much for taking the time to post the bulletin here about
> the St. Louis meeting. This way, obviously, folks like myself who couldn't
> attend but who are very much interested in one or more of the topics
> presented can learn and -- hopefully -- contribute.
>

I'm going to try and spread the word.

> With regard to contributing, I'd like to point out that I was interested in
> the paragraph about the NTS fill-in-the-blanks aspects of future BBS code.
> After twenty some odd years of NTS traffic handling and seven years of
> professionally administering the ARRL's National Traffic System, it's very
> clear to me why the idea is a good one. As is the case with most of the
> volunteer programs within the Amateur Radio Service, a lot of newcomers with
> the best of intentions pop up, trying to serve the public, but not quite
> knowing how to do it best. Or at all.
>

Making this fool proof could be a job but considering the state of the
packet system (or network if you prefer), fill in the blanks could
be a nice feature.

There has to be a considerable amount of NTS generated on a random basis
by users unfamiliar with what the real NTSers expect.

> administration at the ARRL HQ level, and the coding of this software may very
> well be of value to those of you who decide to implement a fill-in-the-blanks
> feature for NTS traffic on your BBSSs. I'd be more than happy to share with
> you what I feel to be important issues, so that we can all broach them
> together and hopefully find useful solutions.
>

Thanks.

Now we have to see if anyone takes you up on the offer.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

107. Re: [BBSSIG:804] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 1995 18:51:07 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503150051.SAA22813@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> >
> > What thoughts do the guys who have to code this think? Hank? Roy?
>
> I have no interest in adding yet another bandaid to the bbs protocol.
>
> If we wish news-like characteristics, we should simply use the rfc-822
> manner of interchange for this data. It's simple, it's in use, it works.
>
> ... Hank
>
Hank,
I believe thats where we want to be. Can we get there from here?
Barry

All in favor of RFC-822 headers and real news-like features: SPEAK UP!

Authors Scorecard
w0rli yes
aa4re ?
f6fbb ?
xNOS ?

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

108. Re: [BBSSIG:807] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 95 17:05:40 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503141705.ZM29042@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 14, 7:00pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:807] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects
> >
> > What thoughts do the guys who have to code this think? Hank? Roy?
> >
> > I have no interest in adding yet another bandaid to the bbs protocol.
> >
> > If we wish news-like characteristics, we should simply use the rfc-822
> > manner of interchange for this data. It's simple, it's in use, it works.
> >
> > ... Hank
> >
> Hank,
> I believe thats where we want to be. Can we get there from here?
> Barry
>
>
> All in favor of RFC-822 headers and real news-like features: SPEAK UP!
>

I think I can safely speak for Brian (we've had this discussion
several times in the past year):

ka2bqe yes

>
> Authors Scorecard

Let's add a column to the scorecard:

Author	favors rfc-822	rfc-822 implemented
w0rli	yes	yes
aa4re	?	
f6fbb	?	
xN0S	yes	yes
wa8bxn		
glnna		
n2gte		
ka2bqe	yes	yes

Also should point out that X-forwarding already implements rfc-822
as it's interchange protocol, and does not require any change in protocol to
handle news groups, or any other rfc-822 feature. The application
code that uses the X-forwarding protocol would require change, however,
and the bbs spec would require some major update work.

How will we get the spec updated?

If we could move this discussion to the bbs network, we might get better
coverage from more of the authors, and more attention from everyone:
many of us don't bother with internet stuff at home, but only have
access from work. At home I'd rather play with my radios than my telephone.

... Hank

--


```

> >
> > Authors Scorecard
>
> Let's add a column to the scorecard:
>
>   Author   favors rfc-822   rfc-822 implemented
>
> w0rli           yes           yes
> aa4re   ?
> f6fbb   ?
> xNOS   yes           yes
> wa8bxn
> g1nna
> n2gte
> ka2bqe yes           yes
>
> Also should point out that X-forwarding already implements rfc-822
> as it's interchange protocol, and does not require any change in protocol to
> handle news groups, or any other rfc-822 feature. The application
> code that uses the X-forwarding protocol would require change, however,
> and the bbs spec would require some major update work.
>
> How will we get the spec updated?
>

```

I've been thinking about this. If there is a willing, capable volunteer out there, I've don't know who it is. I would be willing to maintain the document and/or help identify a person to do so. However, the role of mediator is unclear.

```

> If we could move this discussion to the bbs network, we might get better
> coverage from more of the authors, and more attention from everyone:
> many of us don't bother with internet stuff at home, but only have
> access from work. At home I'd rather play with my radios than my telephone.
>
> ... Hank
>

```

I'm in favor of having a discussion on packet as well as here. There is potential for a large amount of comment from the Sysops and users. This is why I'm trying to post summaries from the SIG to packet.

Where do we go from here?

Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

111. Re: [BBSSIG:807] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 1995 21:23:38 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503142140.A4289-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 14 Mar 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

```

> > If we wish news-like characteristics, we should simply use the rfc-822
> > manner of interchange for this data. It's simple, it's in use, it works.
> >
> > ... Hank
> >
> Hank,
> I believe thats where we want to be. Can we get there from here?
> Barry

```

Would someone care to post an example of exactly what line in these messages is the actual RFC-822 header? If it isn't too long, how about a spec? Or an address to ftp from.

> All in favor of RFC-822 headers and real news-like features: SPEAK UP!

I suspect I would be in favor, but would like to see the header.

Gary

112. Re: [BBSSIG:806] Re: Filling ...

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Wed, 15 Mar 1995 08:42:57 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950315084210_50113541@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Barry sez:

>> There has to be a considerable amount of NTS generated on a random basis
>> by users unfamiliar with what the real NTSers expect.

To which Luck retorts:

Exactly the problem. Which is why an automated NTS Help Form, called from within the BBS code, would be of value. Oh, there's plenty of stand-alone software out there now to "do" NTS traffic generation, and generally it provides reasonably well-crafted output. Even so, there ARE in fact a considerable number of traffic neophytes who just suddenly pop up on their local BBS and do their best at generating sometimes enormous amounts of traffic -- with zero training. Which isn't their fault, but which impacts very negatively on their ultimate ability to serve their "customers", which could well be individuals, the American Red Cross, the State Office of Emergency Services, etc. It would certainly be nice if we could do something logical to assist them, for the result of their efforts can in fact brighten (or tarnish) the customer's perspective of the value of the Amateur Radio Service overall.

Then there's the matter of your use of the term "real NTSers". It's been argued for some years now that there are actually many more ad-hoc (some think of them as "packet", but it certainly includes Pactor, APLINK, CLOVER, etc) NTS traffic handlers and traffic generators than there are "real" (I.E. traditional-mode, manual traffic handlers). Far more.

Which underscores the problem further. On the old style manual traffic nets, there's at least a modicum of peer pressure and OJT to help people learn correct procedures for serving the public. And some BBS-assisted automation would be of immense value in that regard.

73

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
AX.25 - KY1T@N4GAA.CT TCP/IP - 44.88.2.59 (KY1T-2)
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA

113. Re: Filling ...

From: "Kenneth F. Jones" <0003672208@mcimail.com>
Date: Wed, 15 Mar 95 12:20 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <21950315172012/0003672208NA2EM@MCIMAIL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Just to add my \$.02...

I'm in favor of anything that makes NTS via packet easier for those who don't already know how.

I don't have the skill to write the code to assist in proper message formulation, but I'd sure use it and teach with it.

Having discovered that I've checked in to the section net more than twice, thereby inferring that I know it all, some other hams in my club have asked me to present a session on NTS messaging -- I know they're gonna be really impressed with the possibilities of using digital forwarding -- and they're gonna be just as dismayed when they come to understand that it isn't done (at least not around here in my little corner, vicinity Gettysburg). I have to ignore all this fancy computer stuff and try to talk with fellas I can't hear on a band with more QRM and N than anybody should have to endure, and do it at a time that's inconvenient.

When I asked about using packet after having checked in for several weeks to the Eastern Pennsylvania Emergency Phone Traffic Net (EPAEPTN), my section net, I got the word from the Section Traffic Manager (STM) and others on the net that packet didn't work very well. Interesting to note that the STM did receive my Station Activity

Reports via packet.

I conclude that the machinery does not own this problem exclusively. Folks not only must be taught how to use packet to pass traffic, but also must be taught how to deliver it to the recipient, and must be instilled with a sense of obligation to deliver it when they see it advertised, e.g. MAIL FOR: 17331.

Therefore, an attempt to "solve" the packet/NTS problem by providing a help function on a BBS is doomed. It is nevertheless a terrific idea as a way to interface the "unwashed masses" with the intricacies of message formulation, and I applaud all who pursue it.

How can we identify what other facets of "NTS on packet" need some attention?

How can we use this forum to address these items, helping to make NTS on packet a working reality?

Cheers

Ken Jones KB3JA

367-2208@MCIMail.com

KB3JA@KE3NR.SEPA.PA.USA.NOAM

114. Re: [BBSSIG:790] BBS Profile Form

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 15 Mar 1995 11:37:18 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950315111516.19822A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 10 Mar 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

```
>
> In order to gauge what various BBS's are seeing for traffic, using for
> hardware and running for programs, I would like to have some Sysops
> tell a little about their systems.
>
> If you are interested in telling the world about your BBS, please
> complete the form below and send it back to me directly. I'll clean
> them up and may ask a few more questions. Then once a month or
> so, I'll post one of these surveys.
>
> tnx & 73,
> Barry
>
>
>
> ***** BBS Profile *****
>
> Name: Karl F. Larsen
> Callsign: KSDI
> BBS Location: Las Cruces, NM
> BBS Program: FBB
> Service Area: Las Cruces, Alamogordo, Deming, T or C NM
> Sponsor: None
> Average Checkins/Day: 20
>
> ----- Traffic Analysis -----
> Tell a little about your mail and bulletin traffic (separately). Most of
> this information can come from log file analysis programs. Indicate if you
> are forwarding via radio, modem (long distance phone call), Internet, etc.
>
> New Traffic
>   Qty of msgs originated per month (new msgs from users, NOT fws).
>   Personal: 60
>   NTS: 1
>   Bulletins: 60
>
> Incoming Forwards
>   Qty of BBSs providing you with bltns: 4
>   Qty of bltns received per month: 6,000
>
> Outgoing Forwards
>   Qty of BBSs you provide with bltns: 4
>   Qty of bltns forwarded per month: 6,000
>
> ----- Hardware Description -----
```

> Give a brief description of your PC, number of ports, types of TNCs,
 > radios, etc. Also indicate the baud rate (radio side) for all TNC ports.
 > Do you have CD-ROM, SAM, WP or other servers? Is the BBS PC dedicated to
 > the BBS or do you share it with other programs?
 >
 > What operating systems do you run now? I have a 88486-66 home built
 computer with 16 meg of RAM and a 540 Meg Hard Drive. I use Windows for
 Work Groups version 3.1 on DOS 6.2. I have 3 radio ports on 145.07, 223.4
 and 445.1 MHz. The 445.1 MHz port is 9600 baud. I run the BPQ Switch and
 a DRSI type 2 card and a pacom tiny-2 with the g3ruh modem.

Also connected to the BPQ Switch is 2 JNOS tcp/ip systems. One is
 for radio use, the other is slip attached to the Internet thru my 14.4k
 telephone modem.

Of course the F6FBB pbbs is running all the time. I receive most
 of my bulletins from F6CNB Remi in Houston, TX via the internet wormhole.

> Which do you plan to use in the next 2 years? I will run FBB as now
 for the future.

> ----- User Comments -----
 > What do users say to you? Thanks for running a fast bbs.
 > What new features do they want? They want TPK so they get bulletins faster
 > What new features do you want? I like it the way it is. Someone needs
 to write this up...

>
 > Any thoughts on user education?
 See my writeup on using FBB, and it's change for other pbbs.

>
 > Do you belong to a BBS and Networking organization (state or regional)?

We have a bbs organization, and since we put up 100% of the nodes
 in this state we are the networking organization too. We talk vis the bbs
 with sysop mail when needed.

> How often do they meet?
 When needed.

> (tell about coordinating efforts).

Frequency coordination in NM and Far West Texas is a joke. The
 ARRL is non-functional and when asked to coordinate simplex packet nodes
 told me they don't coordinate simplex...

>
 > Anything else?
 >

Later, I need to EAT my lunch, not look at it...:-)

>
 >
 >

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

115. Re: [BBSSIG:812] Re: Filling ...

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
 Date: Wed, 15 Mar 1995 19:09:17 -0600 (CST)
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <199503160109.TAA27879@zeus.ia.net>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

>
> Then there's the matter of your use of the term "real NTSers". It's been

Luck
I didn't mean NTSer in any negative way. I was just trying to distinguish
between an occasional NTS generator and a person who regularly handles
traffic and knows what to do with it.
Barry

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

116. BBS Profiles

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
Date: Wed, 15 Mar 1995 19:17:39 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503160117.TAA27907@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl and John,

Thanks for sending in the profiles. If anyone else plans to send in
a response, please send it to me. Don't post it to the SIG.

Thanks,
Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

117. Re: [BBSSIG:812] Re: Filling ...

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Wed, 15 Mar 1995 20:57:27 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503152010.A7672-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 15 Mar 1995 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

> Barry sez:
>
> >> There has to be a considerable amount of NTS generated on a random basis
> >> by users unfamiliar with what the real NTSers expect.
>
>
> To which Luck retorts:
>
> Exactly the problem. Which is why an automated NTS Help Form, called from
> within the BBS code, would be of value. Oh, there's plenty of stand-alone
> software out there now to "do" NTS traffic generation, and generally it
> provides reasonably well-crafted output. Even so, there ARE in fact a
> considerable number of traffic neophytes who just suddenly pop up on their
> local BBS and do their best at generating sometimes enormous amounts of
> traffic -- with zero training.

Luck and others:

The above is precisely why I think the NTS interface module (if you will)
of the BBS should be something that is a training tool. I think the nts
entry helper should be defaulted ON, not off, so that every person who
originates an NTS message on a packet bbs will automatically have the
opportunity to get it 100% correct the first time. The fact is, many of
those people mentioned in the above paragraph will originate an NTS
message, get it completely wrong, AND NEVER KNOW IT! If he doesn't know
it, he will repeat the scenario the next time.

Two days ago, I received an NTS message on my board addressed to a zipcode
at NTSstate (no problem), with a subject giving the city of destination
(as I remember it). So far so good. However, the message had NO HEADER,
NO NAME, NO ADDRESS, NO CITY, NO STATE, NO ZIP, and NO PHONE NUMBER. It
just had a message and signature. It was going to a ZIPCODE in a STATE,
but not to a person or address. This station had no idea that he had done

anything wrong.

If his BBS had insisted on him entering the data correctly AND THEN PRESENTED IT TO HIM IN COMPLETED FORM so that he could see what it is supposed to look like, that wouldn't have happened. Maybe after he has done it a few times, he should be able to turn off the helper. That's debatable. The fact is, most of us would leave it turned on. We just don't originate that much NTS traffic. Those who do, don't need the help. Besides, it would be just plain handy!

>
> Which underscores the problem further. On the old style manual traffic nets,
> there's at least a modicum of peer pressure and OJT to help people learn
> correct procedures for serving the public. And some BBS-assisted automation
> would be of immense value in that regard.

Exactly. The NTS nets have built-in training and interactive help. Today's digital "NTSer" only has the bbs program on the other end of the packet link. That program should offer much of the help that is missing.

My two cents worth.

Gary - AG0N

118. NTS

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 05:36:50 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950316052658.15496A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

NTS traffic is a problem simply because there is so little of it generated now days. This is because it costs so little to call on the telephone on Saturday or Sunday. We have become able to use the telephone in ways that were impossible just 40 years ago.

I remember when in the Navy I needed to make several long distance calls and didn't because I did not have the cash needed for the call in hand! I remember one call from Pensicolla Fl to LA cost me \$12.00 in quarters. That is equivelent to \$50.00 in todays dollars. I was paid like \$250.00/month.

So if we want to learn to use NTS wish for a depression...:-)

119. Re: [BBSSIG:792] DRSI PCPA Clone ??

From: gwyn@paccomm.com (Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL)
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 95 07:46:20 UTC
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <1424@paccomm.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

You might want to consider the predecessor of the PCPA card, the PacComm PC-100. It is not identical to the PCPA, but very similar. IT will not work with the TNC-TSR program which is provided with the PCPA, but we don't have a license for that software anyway. If one uses G8BPQ code to interface the card and your application, there is no problem.

re: Mike Fahmie

Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL gwyn@paccomm.com W1BEL@amsat.org
+ (813) 874-2980 Fax: + (813) 872-8696 BBS: + (813) 874-3078 (V.34)
PacComm Packet Radio Systems, Inc, 4413 N. Hesperides St, Tampa, FL 33614-7618

120. We can serve the public better

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 08:35:02 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: HO_betsey@apollo.communet.edu, buck@ccsua.ctstateu.edu,
71673.1124@compuserve.com
Message-ID: <950316083502_51219716@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

AG0N sez:

>>... I think the NTS interface module (if you will)
of the BBS should be something that is a training tool. I think the nts
entry helper should be defaulted ON, not off, so that every person who

originates an NTS message on a packet bbs will automatically have the opportunity to get it 100% correct the first time. The fact is, many of those people mentioned in the above paragraph will originate an NTS message, get it completely wrong, AND NEVER KNOW IT! If he doesn't know it, he will repeat the scenario the next time.

To which KY1T retorts:

I agree wholeheartedly, except that I'm puzzled about the default-to-on part. That is, I assume that we'd have to have it set up so that if T type traffic was incoming from another BBS, then the training interface module (TIM?) would be off. The only time ole TIM would engage his interactive nature would be if somebody was just plain logged on and proceeded to use the "ST" command. Right? Can that be done?

If so, then yes, I think it's a spectacular idea. Well, almost. What about the guy (like me, maybe) who has a file of a hundred NTS messages that he wants to send? That needs to be taken into consideration, perhaps by way of an NTS "expert" command. Otherwise I agree that TIM should default to ON.

AGON continues:

>>Two days ago, I received an NTS message on my board addressed to a zipcode at NTSstate (no problem), with a subject giving the city of destination (as I remember it). So far so good. However, the message had NO HEADER, NO NAME, NO ADDRESS, NO CITY, NO STATE, NO ZIP, and NO PHONE NUMBER. It just had a message and signature. It was going to a ZIPCODE in a STATE, but not to a person or address. This station had no idea that he had done anything wrong.

And KY1T babbles forth in response:

Exactly. It's not that he or she knows he's botching things up. And it's not that he's doing it on purpose. He simply hasn't had the benefit of any sort of training. Is this bad? You bet. On three counts:

1. He doesn't learn how to do it right in the future (we can FIX that by continuing this very conversation, if taken to it's ultimate endpoint...)
2. The public that he's serving with these ill-formed NTS messages are well NOT!
3. Packet ends up with a big fat black eye. Again. Doesn't matter that it was originated on a CLOVER BBS. Or on APLINK. Whatever. "Packet" still gets the black eye. Big time. I've given talks on NTS traffic handling and traffic training all over the country for many years now, and the predominant complaint from the public service communicators is along the lines of "That damned PACKET is stealing all 'our' traffic", and "That damned PACKET is screwing up our messages royally". Neither of which is true, of course, but both could be solved nicely with the addition of some TIM coding that we're talking about right here and now.

Gary continues:

>>If his BBS had insisted on him entering the data correctly AND THEN PRESENTED IT TO HIM IN COMPLETED FORM so that he could see what it is supposed to look like, that wouldn't have happened. Maybe after he has done it a few times, he should be able to turn off the helper. That's debatable. The fact is, most of us would leave it turned on. We just don't originate that much NTS traffic. Those who do, don't need the help. Besides, it would be just plain handy!

Luck retorts:

You got it. But it's far MORE than "just plain handy"; it's long ago become something of absolute necessity and I'm delighted that we're afforded the opportunity to chat about it here on this forum.

The Windows-based NTS-generation software that I'm just about finished with now (anybody wanna Beta Test it for me? Please?) does much of what we need now. It simply doesn't allow the user to screw things up. But it's stand-alone software, and so far, at least, doesn't interface with the various BBS packages. In the "if-wishes-were-horses" department, we'd have the speeds available to allow my software to run as a shell or a door from the bbs code, perhaps, but I'm just not smart enough to figure out how to make THAT happen. I AM encouraged, however, by the talk (by Andy Funk, KB7UV and others) about allowing client-server type applications to run over RF networks, to the point where whole screens of graphics would be obtained

ONCE, reside on the client's PC and allow interactive (user to BBS) things to occur with an absolute minimum of on-the-air transmission. And I'm also encouraged by Jeff King's published proposal regarding high speed multicasting. With some luck, all these things will gel.

Gary continues:

>>exactly. The NTS nets have built-in training and interactive help. Today's digital "NTSer" only has the bbs program on the other end of the packet link. That program should offer much of the help that is missing.

>>My two cents worth.

And KY1T finally finalizes his final final, at the risk of finalizing his finals...

And "your two cents worth" make for very interesting commentary, Gary. Much appreciated food for thought!

Luck Hurder, KY1T ** KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM **
AX.25 - KY1T@N4GAA.CT TCP/IP - 44.88.2.59 (KY1T-2)
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, and NARA

121. Re: [BBSSIG:818] NTS

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 08:54:40 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950316085440_51231557@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

K5DI sez:

>> NTS traffic is a problem simply because there is so little of it generated now days. This is because it costs so little to call on the telephone on Saturday or Sunday. We have become able to use the telephone in ways that were impossible just 40 years ago.

To which KY1T responds:

The latter sentence is absolutely true, but it doesn't equate well with the notion that "so little" T type traffic is generated. What I suspect is happening is that you're not seeing a bunch of it in your area. But I can come up with numerous examples of "digital quantity" that are based solely on T type traffic from around the country. Lemmee grab a recent QST here...

Yah, there we go. Of the top traffic generators nationwide, they're all "digital" folks, with the sole exception of Mae Burke, W3CUL. NZ2T in Texas, for example sent one thousand one hundred and fifty six pieces of NTS traffic via digital BBS that month. Over in the Public Service Honor Roll column, I see that BBS SYSOP W8AKF in California had 995 points. During the latter years of my employment with ARRL HQ, I noted that he was frequently on the top of the heap, pointwise, as was NZ2T. The reason for those high figures was ALWAYS due to T type traffic, handled via the digital modes, month after month, year after year.

And that's just the tip of the proverbial iceberg. Why? Well you can bet your socks that guys like W0RLI and other SYSOPS on CLOVER, APLINK and other high volume T type traffic handlers just do it cuz it's part of what they do. A fairly small (but very very important) portion of what they do. And they don't report it. Most don't.

So I don't think it's a good assumption that there's "not much" happening, traffic wise. But I agree that it's down substantially from years past when it was expensive (or not possible) to pick up the phone and do it all that way...

73

LH

122. Re: [BBSSIG:820] We can serve the public better

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 09:07:22 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503160847.A23646-0100000@hannibal>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 16 Mar 1995 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

- > I agree wholeheartedly, except that I'm puzzled about the default-to-on part.
- > That is, I assume that we'd have to have it set up so that if T type
- > traffic was incoming from another BBS, then the training interface module
- > (TIM?) would be off.

Yes, the fact that the sending station has triggered the forwarding module would shut down the "TIM".

- > The only time ole TIM would engage his interactive
- > nature would be if somebody was just plain logged on and proceeded to use the
- > "ST" command. Right? Can that be done?

Correct. I don't know why not. TIM would activate only on a live body.

- > If so, then yes, I think it's a spectacular idea. Well, almost. What about
- > the guy (like me, maybe) who has a file of a hundred NTS messages that he
- > wants to send? That needs to be taken into consideration, perhaps by way of
- > an NTS "expert" command. Otherwise I agree that TIM should default to ON.

That's why I assumed it would have to have a toggle that the user could use to turn off the TIM. When a real expert came along, he could shut it off and leave it off. He could upload however many he wanted and the board would accept them as valid.

A question came up while I was thinking of the original idea though. How easy (how much code) would it be to have the program still keep watch over the data being input by the user (except in bbs fwd module) so that when the user *thought* he was an expert and shut the TIM down, it would warn him if he still got part of it wrong?

- > Exactly. It's not that he or she knows he's botching things up. And it's
- > not that he's doing it on purpose. He simply hasn't had the benefit of any
- > sort of training. Is this bad? You bet. On three counts:
- >
- > 1. He doesn't learn how to do it right in the future (we can FIX that by
- > continuing this very conversation, if taken to it's ultimate endpoint...)

This, to me, is the real crime. If you make mistakes and don't get corrected by someone, you will continue to make them because, to you, they aren't mistakes.

- > I've given talks on NTS traffic handling and traffic training all over the
- > country for many years now, and the predominant complaint from the public
- > service communicators is along the lines of "That damned PACKET is stealing
- > all 'our' traffic", and "That damned PACKET is screwing up our messages
- > royally". Neither of which is true, of course, but both could be solved
- > nicely with the addition of some TIM coding that we're talking about right
- > here and now.

This is interesting. I've heard others say this. Being in an area that has basically no NTS cw operation, I find that surprising. Packet has been the only NTS route into this area for years, with the small exception of one phone net. But even there, we have no local check-ins.

- > In the "if-wishes-were-horses" department, we'd have
- > the speeds available to allow my software to run as a shell or a door from
- > the bbs code,...

Two trains of thought. If the packet bbs is taken to the point where it will deal only with client/server users, the users need to have your software working as a module on their end. However, if we keep the bbs software as it is, able to accept a connect from a dumb terminal, then the software also needs to be available to that user via the bbs. Personally, I would like to see us skip the dumb terminal user and take the bbs to the client/server level. Just my opinion (which isn't always very popular) :)

- > And KY1T finally finalizes his final final, at the risk of finalizing his
- > finals...
- >
- > And "your two cents worth" make for very interesting commentary, Gary. Much
- > appreciated food for thought!

Thank you for being interested in my comments!

Gary-AG0N

123. Re: [BBSSIG:818] NTS

From: "Kenneth F. Jones" <0003672208@mcimail.com>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 95 10:11 EST
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <63950316151136/0003672208NA2EM@MCIMAIL.COM>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> So if we want to learn to use NTS wish for a depression...:-)

Hey, I'm depressed already. Does that help any?

Ken Jones KB3JA
367-2208@MCIMail.com
KB3JA@KE3NR.#SEPA.PA.USA.NOAM

124. Re: [BBSSIG:821] Re: NTS

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 11:57:28 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950316115235.1322A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 16 Mar 1995 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

> K5DI sez:

>

>

> >> NTS traffic is a problem simply because there is so little of it
> generated now days. This is because it costs so little to call on the
> telephone on Saturday or Sunday. We have become able to use the telephone
> in ways that were impossible just 40 years ago.

>

> To which KY1T responds:

>

> The latter sentence is absolutely true, but it doesn't equate well with the
> notion that "so little" T type traffic is generated. What I suspect is
> happening is that you're not seeing a bunch of it in your area. But I can
> come up with numerous examples of "digital quantity" that are based solely on
> T type traffic from around the country. Lemmee grab a recent QST here...

>

> Yah, there we go. Of the top traffic generators nationwide, they're all
> "digital" folks, with the sole exception of Mae Burke, W3CUL. NZ2T in Texas,
> for example sent one thousand one hundred and fifty six pieces of NTS traffic
> via digital BBS that month. Over in the Public Service Honor Roll column, I
> see that BBS SYSOP W8AKF in California had 995 points. During the latter
> years of my employment with ARRL HQ, I noted that he was frequently on the
> top of the heap, pointwise, as was NZ2T. The reason for those high figures
> was ALWAYS due to T type traffic, handled via the digital modes, month after
> month, year after year.

>

> And that's just the tip of the proverbial iceberg. Why? Well you can bet
> your socks that guys like W0RLI and other SYSOPS on CLOVER, APLINK and other
> high volume T type traffic handlers just do it cuz it's part of what they do.
> A fairly small (but very very important) portion of what they do. And they
> don't report it. Most don't.

Do not forget that the "National" TS does NOT work outside the
USA and Canada. I did a New Years Eve thing this last 1st of Jan and got
35 NTS messages of which over half were for Europe and South America.
Talk about a PAIN! I did all manor of things to get this mail out.

>

> So I don't think it's a good assumption that there's "not much" happening,
> traffic wise. But I agree that it's down substantially from years past when
> it was expensive (or not possible) to pick up the phone and do it all that
> way...

>

> 73

>

> LH

>

>

Well I did get my bbs set up to forward ALL NTS properly and so I may not see it as often as before...:-)

73, de karl k5di@k5di forever

125. Re: [BBSSIG:824] Re: NTS

From: KY1TLuck@aol.com
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 16:29:49 -0500
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950316162854_51621286@aol.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain
K5DI sez:

Do not forget that the "National" TS does NOT work outside the USA and Canada. I did a New Years Eve thing this last 1st of Jan and got 35 NTS messages of which over half were for Europe and South America. Talk about a PAIN! I did all manor of things to get this mail out.

To which KY1T retorts:

Actually, yes it does function outside of the USA. That's why the "foreign" arm of NTS was created over a decade ago -- the International Assistance and Traffic Net (The Atlantic Region Net, or ARN).

IATN/ARN works well with Carribean nations and to some European countries, but I agree that the gist and historical purpose of (N)TS is with regard to North America in particular.

Still, it's unfortunate that more people don't realize that there IS a proper way to get foreign T traffic into the hands of the formalized arm of NTS that handles such stuff...

73

LH

126. Re: [BBSSIG:820] We can serve the public better

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 95 18:03:00 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503170003.AA131376@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

The sysop should be able to set a flag to default it 'on' or 'off.'
Plus this should be a parameter that can be set for each user. If a user decides he/she is an NTS expert and the sysop discovers that the user needs training wheels, the sysop should be able to force the individual user's settings back to NTS 'novice.'

Dave Wolf W05H

127. Re: [BBSSIG:811] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 17:50:20 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950316174816.20809A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 14 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

```
>
>
> On Tue, 14 Mar 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:
>
> > > If we wish news-like characteristics, we should simply use the rfc-822
> > > manner of interchange for this data. It's simple, it's in use, it works.
> > >
> > > ... Hank
> > >
> > Hank,
> > I believe thats where we want to be. Can we get there from here?
> > Barry
>
> Would someone care to post an example of exactly what line in these
```

> messages is the actual RFC-822 header? If it isn't too long, how about a
 > spec? Or an address to ftp from.
 >
 > > All in favor of RFC-822 headers and real news-like features: SPEAK UP!
 >
 > I suspect I would be in favor, but would like to see the header.
 >
 > Gary
 >
 Gary I second your request. I could write 10 pages on how
 terrible RFC-822 is because I haven't a guess what it is....hi

73, karl k5di

128. Re: [BBSSIG:827] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
 Date: Thu, 16 Mar 95 17:21:06 PST
 To: bbssig@tapr.org
 Message-ID: <9503161721.ZM8519@hanko>
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 16, 7:08pm, Klarsen wrote:
 > Subject: [BBSSIG:827] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects
 >
 >
 > On Tue, 14 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:
 >
 > >
 > >
 > > On Tue, 14 Mar 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:
 > >
 > > > If we wish news-like characteristics, we should simply use the rfc-822
 > > > manner of interchange for this data. It's simple, it's in use, it
 > > > works.
 > > >
 > > > ... Hank
 > > >
 > > > Hank,
 > > > I believe thats where we want to be. Can we get there from here?
 > > > Barry
 > > >
 > > > Would someone care to post an example of exactly what line in these
 > > > messages is the actual RFC-822 header? If it isn't too long, how about a
 > > > spec? Or an address to ftp from.
 > > >
 > > > All in favor of RFC-822 headers and real news-like features: SPEAK UP!
 > > >
 > > > I suspect I would be in favor, but would like to see the header.
 > > >
 > > > Gary
 > > >
 > > > Gary I second your request. I could write 10 pages on how
 > > > terrible RFC-822 is because I haven't a guess what it is....hi

Um ... most packet bbs systems show you the rfc-822 header when
 you read a message ... and the message I am replying to has one.

The rfc-822 standard (well, technically is is a "request for comment")
 is online somewhere (it's available on my packet bbs, but that won't
 help you very much).

It's not "a header line", but a specification for the structure of a
 message. A message, in rfc-822 terms, consists of a header (some lines
 that describe the message) and a body (some lines that are the message text).

So, it would look something like this:

```
> From: w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam
> To: wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
> Subject: This is an rfc-822 compliant message.
> Message-ID: <12345@W0RLI> (23456@WA0RJT)
> Date: 15 March 1994 12:37 PST
>
> Hi Barry,
> This is a message.
```

(The "> " added to make certain that no email agent decides the above
 is really a message header - even though it is stuck inside the body

of this message I'm composing)

There are many more keywords possible in the header portion. The bbs spec defines a few that are unique to ham radio, such as X-BID:.

Note that there is no mechanism specified by rfc-822 to delimit the END of the message body ... the body is simply all the text after the first blank line, and the header is all the text before the first blank line.

So rfc-822 is helpful - it tells us how to bundle a message and it's address together, but it is not all we need. We still need a protocol for transferring the information from one system to another, marking the end of one message and the start of another. In the bbs world, we chose control-Z CR or "/EX" CR as a mark to separate messages. In fact, the "bbs spec" is what defines this part of the protocol. So it would actually be simple to implement rfc-822 as part of the bbs spec; simply state that the text exchanged is an rfc-822 compliant header/body. That is exactly what the X forwarding protocol does.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com "Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

129. NTS and training

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 19:35:36 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503170135.TAA03413@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

To several commentors:

It seems that once again, training is a big issue. NTS would benefit from both user training and an a change to the BBS<->User interface.

Is someone out there willing to write up a brief users help section that we could distribute as a packet bltn. It should be 1 - 2 screens full (80 chars by 45 lines). This would be an element of the TAPR user education system.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

130. RFC822

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 95 19:17:10 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503170228.UAA08601@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

RFC822 is available as a 106K text file via anonymous ftp at:

ftp.hereford.ampr.org /pub/rfc/rfc8

Many other RFC's are at this site as well.

73 de Jack

131. Re: ftp site for rfc-822 (N700)

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 20:11:40 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503162054.A13479-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Jack: I get a "services not available" message from that address and disconnect. (ftp.hereford.ampr.org)

132. User Education SIG

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>
Date: Thu, 16 Mar 1995 22:08:15 -0600 (CST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503170408.WAA04081@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

After some preparation and even a little thought, we are ready to kick off the first WORKING GROUP. This will be a special subset of the BBSSIG dedicated to working out the details of special packet bulletins and the text of several bulletins.

If you are interested in participating in this group, please send a msg DIRECTLY to me. Then I'll send you the information on how to get signed up.

This is a opportunity to contribute something to the packet community. A special SIG list server has been setup and you can do the work in a group of 5-10.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

133. Re: [BBSSIG:831] Re: ftp site for rfc-822 (N700)

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@huachuca-emh8.army.mil>
Date: Fri, 17 Mar 95 9:10:02 MST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199503171616.KAA12940@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Garry McDuffie reports he gets a "services not available" message from ftp.hereford.ampr.org. Does anyone else have this problem? I just ftp'd to the site without incident. Numerical address is 137.80.1.2
73 de Jack

134. Re: N700 ftp.hereford.ampr.org

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Fri, 17 Mar 1995 09:29:28 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503170947.A853-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Jack:

I just tried it again. I get the following back when I ftp to hereford:

Connectd to ftp.hereford.ampr.org
421 Services not available, remote server has closed connection

Gary

135. Re: [BBSSIG:828] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.ampr.org>
Date: Fri, 17 Mar 1995 12:46:39 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950317124500.524A-1000000@n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 16 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

...

> It's not "a header line", but a specification for the structure of a
> message. A message, in rfc-822 terms, consists of a header (some lines
> that describe the message) and a body (some lines that are the message text).
>

> So, it would look something like this:

>

> > From: w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam
> > To: wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
> > Subject: This is an rfc-822 compliant message.
> > Message-ID: <12345@W0RLI> (23456@WA0RJT)
> > Date: 15 March 1994 12:37 PST

...

How does this format aid in distinguishing in the 'area' or 'newsgroup'?
We need a mandatory Newsgroup:/Topic: header. The above might go in
'misc.test'

Howie

136. Re: [BBSSIG:834] Re: N700 ftp.hereford.ampr.org

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 17 Mar 1995 12:13:35 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950317120755.467A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 17 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>
> Jack:
>
> I just tried it again. I get the following back when I ftp to hereford:
>
> Connectd to ftp.hereford.ampr.org
> 421 Services not available, remote server has closed connection
>
>
> Gary
>

Gary I just put rfc822.zip into the
hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming directory of the ever faithful
ftp.ucsd.edu and it should be d/l available as I write this. To Jack
Taylor, I had no problem getting to ftp.hereford.ampr.org but my NOS
domain server had to do a bunch of thinking before I got there.
So good luck Gary, I am now going to print the darn thing. It seems to be
the Internet SMTP message header spec...in complete and gory detail...hi
and was done in 1982...that was a good year?

73, karl

137. Re: [BBSSIG:825] Re: NTS

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 17 Mar 1995 12:41:27 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950317123527.467B-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 16 Mar 1995 KY1TLuck@aol.com wrote:

> K5DI sez:
>
>
> Do not forget that the "National" TS does NOT work outside the
> USA and Canada. I did a New Years Eve thing this last 1st of Jan and got
> 35 NTS messages of which over half were for Europe and South America.
> Talk about a PAIN! I did all manor of things to get this mail out.
>
>
> To which KY1T retorts:
>
> Actually, yes it does function outside of the USA. That's why the "foreign"
> arm of NTS was created over a decade ago -- the International Assistance and
> Traffic Net (The Atlantic Region Net, or ARN).

Been a packet bbs sysop for over 8 years and never heard of the
above so that was not available to me...

>
> IATN/ARN works well with Carribean nations and to some European countries,
> but I agree that the gist and historical purpose of (N)TS is with regard to
> North America in particular.

Never heard of this one either! I do very much need to know about
this one too. My comments about how cheap the phone is now do not, repeat
NOT apply to Latin America! I can get loads of traffic for that direction
but can't pass it so don't.

>
> Still, it's unfortunate that more people don't realize that there IS a proper
> way to get foreign T traffic into the hands of the formalized arm of NTS that
> handles such stuff...
>
> 73
>
> LH
>
>
LH, since you know about all this, please write up a paper on how
to use these 2 services and like that. Post it here or if it's long in
the TAPR ftp site.

73, karl k5di

138. Re: [BBSSIG:835] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects

From: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Date: Fri, 17 Mar 95 12:44:27 PST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503171244.ZM9619@hanko>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 17, 1:14pm, Howard Goldstein wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:835] Re: Proposal for Structured Subjects
> On Thu, 16 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:
> ..
> > It's not "a header line", but a specification for the structure of a
> > message. A message, in rfc-822 terms, consists of a header (some lines
> > that describe the message) and a body (some lines that are the message
text).
> >
> > So, it would look something like this:
> >
> > > From: w0rli@w0rli.or.usa.noam
> > > To: wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
> > > Subject: This is an rfc-822 compliant message.
> > > Message-ID: <12345@W0RLI> (23456@WA0RJT)
> > > Date: 15 March 1994 12:37 PST
> > ..
> >
> How does this format aid in distinguishing in the 'area' or 'newsgroup'?
> We need a mandatory Newsgroup:/Topic: header. The above might go in
> 'misc.test'

The rfc-822 way to do this is:

> NewsGroups: misc.test, rec.radio.amateur.garp, alt.flame

(or something similar, don't have the spec at hand)

You can describe anything you like about a message using rfc-822

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics	Library Operations
Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com	"Parts 'R Us!"
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.U.S.A.NOAM	

139. RFC 822 and our pbbs

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Fri, 17 Mar 1995 14:12:51 -0700 (MST)
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950317135026.4860A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have printed out RFC-822 and skim-read what it contains in
great detail. It replaces RFC #733 which was Obsolete in Aug, 1982. It is
done by David Crocker, then of U of Delaware.

What I see is a system VERY similar to that used on our pbbs at
this moment, with several items removed from those identified in the RFC.
The "message" has a header, and lines of text. The RFC says little about
the lines of text. It covers the header fields.

The header CAN contain a lot of information. It allows the message to be:
re-sent
in-reply-to
encrypted
and contains for the internet/ham tcp/ip name-domains. How all this is done is defined in niti-grity detail in the RFC.

It is my considered opinion that this document should be followed to make our pbbs header fields. Further I suggest that we make provision for all the internet specific fields as well so when we get a chance to port the pbbs mail to the internet, or vers/visa it will work.

At the present day we have no use for many header fields that RFC 822 defines, but if they exist in the new pbbs software, then they can be used when the pbbs/internet gateway software is written. That may happen in just a few month or years. For sure it can happen in concept at least, using NOS.

73, karl k5di

140. Re: [BBSSIG:837] Re: NTS

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>
Date: Sun, 19 Mar 1995 15:49:16 -0700 (MST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503191535.A12887-0100000@hannibal>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 17 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> LH, since you know about all this, please write up a paper on how
> to use these 2 services and like that. Post it here or if it's long in
> the TAPR ftp site.
>
> 73, karl k5di

Like Karl, I've certainly never heard of either of these, never known there was any way to do non-stateside NTS. I have to wonder whose fault it is. I'll guarantee you, none of the people I forward to know either. I'd bet over 90% of the hams don't know. Where, again, is our League when they are needed? And if it isn't their job to keep the hams educated on such matters, then whose is it?

Gary

141. Re: [BBSSIG:840] Re: NTS

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.ampr.org>
Date: Sun, 19 Mar 1995 19:23:20 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950319191919.302A-100000@n2wx.ampr.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 19 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>
>
> On Fri, 17 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:
>
> > LH, since you know about all this, please write up a paper on how
> > to use these 2 services and like that. Post it here or if it's long in
> > the TAPR ftp site.
> >
> > 73, karl k5di
>
> Like Karl, I've certainly never heard of either of these, never known
> there was any way to do non-stateside NTS. I have to wonder whose fault
> it is. I'll guarantee you, none of the people I forward to know either.
> I'd bet over 90% of the hams don't know. Where, again, is our League
> when they are needed? And if it isn't their job to keep the hams educated
> on such matters, then whose is it?
>

Most active NTS ops know overseas stuff is (now - it changes) routed via 4RN. I'm not sure the league is to blame for everything, be it global warming or details of NTS routing that are less than highly relevant for most hams operating below the region net level.

If anything this points out how poorly integrated BBSSs are with NTS. But then again, most NTS ops don't find much use for the BBS network with the

Howie

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)
Date: Sun, 19 Mar 95 18:58:12 CST
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <9503200058.AA140448@tcet.unt.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Dave Wolf W05H

From: Jack Swift <jswift@msen.com>
Date: Sun, 19 Mar 1995 22:38:00 -0500 (EST)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.91.950319222808.10883B-100000@garnet.msen.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

> If his BBS had insisted on him entering the data correctly AND THEN
> PRESENTED IT TO HIM IN COMPLETED FORM so that he could see what it is
> supposed to look like, that wouldn't have happened. Maybe after he has
> done it a few times, he should be able to turn off the helper. That's
> debatable. The fact is, most of us would leave it turned on. We just
> don't originate that much NTS traffic. Those who do, don't need the help.
> Besides, it would be just plain handy!
>

I like the idea of having "ST" call up a module that would force correct formatting. At the least, it would prevent me from incorrectly coaching someone.....

Jack Swift jswift@msen.com N8WAV@W8YY.#UPMI.MI.USA.NOAM
Swift True Value Hardware 402 Shelden Ave. Houghton, MI 49931
Houghton County Amateur Radio Emergency Service APO Epsilon Lambda Advisor
906-482-0530, 0531, 7766 Dereliction IS! Having fun is Hamming it up!
Marriage is an Institution - Only a Psychologist should be able to commit you.
~~~~~

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 02:06:00 -0700 (MST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950320012837.18465A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

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> On Sun, 19 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:  
 >  
 > >  
 > >  
 > > On Fri, 17 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
 > >  
 > > > LH, since you know about all this, please write up a paper on how  
 > > > to use these 2 services and like that. Post it here or if it's long in  
 > > > the TAPR ftp site.  
 > > >  
 > > > 73, karl k5di  
 > > >  
 > > Like Karl, I've certainly never heard of either of these, never known  
 > > there was any way to do non-stateside NTS. I have to wonder whose fault  
 > > it is. I'll guarantee you, none of the people I forward to know either.  
 > > I'd bet over 90% of the hams don't know. Where, again, is our League  
 > > when they are needed? And if it isn't their job to keep the hams educated  
 > > on such matters, then whose is it?  
 > >  
 >  
 > Most active NTS ops know overseas stuff is (now - it changes) routed via  
 > ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

> 4RN. I'm not sure the league is to blame for everything, be it global  
 > ^^^

Since Howie is is so very knowledgeable on this subject could you narrow it down just a little? Is it w4rn, k4rn, ka4rn, kb4rn, ...

I AM an active NTS ops! I have my bbs set to forward a proper NTS message the right direction, assuming it has a zipcode (made in usa) and nowhere else!

Now you Howie state that I'm NOT a NTS ops because I don't know how to send mail overseas. You my friend are a reason why the NTS "people" have had "historical" bad luck with the packet bbs network.

warning or details of NTS routing that are less than highly relevant for  
 > most hams operating below the region net level.  
 > ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

I get it! Since I'm operating below the region net level I should not be interested. OK I am not interested.

> If anything this points out how poorly integrated BBSs are with NTS. But  
 > then again, most NTS ops don't find much use for the BBS network with the  
 > exception of point to point stuff because of historical poor reliability.  
 > ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

A major reason for the problem we packet bbs sysops with NTS is that we operate below the region net level. It's clear we need to get some region net level SYSOPS!

Howie, if the best information we can get about the NTS is what you present here now, it is amazing that ANY NTS is passed. I have participated in cw traffic nets (I liked digital modes even before packet) until they failed. I now participate in the 80 meter phone net for NM that has less than 1 message per day, on average. It takes 10 times as long to send a message this way, but you don't need to remember the code.

I take you to task on your "historical poor reliability". I get mail several times a week from users telling me it took just 2 days to reach his son/father/mother via my pbbs. This is because I have a forwarding partner system that works. For your area I forward to Houston. Remi 6cnb has forwarding partners in Europe and like that. If you can get a packet address for a buddy in Bangladesh we can reliably get mail to him/her. But YOUR National Traffic System is so stand-off-ish that you can not work with a low-life sysop.

So long as NTS "regional ops" distrust sysop's there can be no improvement in the system. It looks like you Howie are part of the problem.

> Howie  
>  
karl k5di@k5di

## 145. Re: [BBSSIG:844] Re: NTS

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 10:55:37 -0700 (MST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503201038.A6746-0100000@hannibal>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:

Line designating quote from Howie inadvertently omitted...

> >  
> > Most active NTS ops know overseas stuff is (now - it changes) routed via  
> ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^  
> > 4RN. I'm not sure the league is to blame for everything, be it global  
> > ^^^

I say again, then who is?

> Since Howie is is so very knowledgable on this subject could you  
> narrow it down just a little? Is it w4rn, k4rn, ka4rn. kb4rn, ...

I would guess he was speaking of the 4th Region Net (4RN). However, I would not have known that (if it is correct), had I not been an RN6 NCS a little over 30 years ago. The general usership has no reason to know about how the pipe works and what the stops are along the way.

> I AM an active NTS ops! I have my bbs set to forward a proper NTS  
> message the right direction, assuming it has a zipcode (made in usa) and  
> nowhere else!

How many of us have any zips for anything other than USA? Some will have CAN but are there others? I couldn't even tell you what a foreign zip looks like.

> Now you Howie state that I'm NOT a NTS ops because I don't know  
> how to send mail overseas. You my friend are a reason why the NTS  
> "people" have had "historical" bad luck with the packet bbs network.  
>  
>  
> > warming or details of NTS routing that are less than highly relevant for  
> > most hams operating below the region net level.  
> ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

> I get it! Since I'm operating below the region net level I should  
> not be interested. OK I am not interested.  
>  
> > If anything this points out how poorly integrated BBSs are with NTS. But  
> > then again, most NTS ops don't find much use for the BBS network with the  
> > exception of point to point stuff because of historical poor reliability.  
> > ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

> A major reason for the problem we packet bbs sysops with NTS is  
> that we operate below the region net level. It's clear we need to get  
> some region net level SYSOPS!

Why would we need RN level sysop? I have no problem with it, just don't see the need for the word sysop instead of user. How about just plain USERS? NTS ops don't operate packet at all in some cases. My area has no one at all that is interested in delivering an NTS message...on any mode, including me! I did my stint on NTS years ago, until I got burned out. One users said he would take the NTS stuff, if any comes in (very few do) so all are sent to him.

> Howie, if the best information we can get about the NTS is what  
> you present here now, it is amazing that ANY NTS is passed. I have  
> participated in cw traffic nets (I liked digital modes even before  
> packet) until they failed. I now participate in the 80 meter phone net  
> for NM that has less than 1 message per day, on average. It takes 10  
> times as long to send a message this way, but you don't need to remember  
> the code.  
>

> I take you to task on your "historical poor reliability". I get  
> mail several times a week from users telling me it took just 2 days to

> reach his son/father/mother via my pbbs. This is because I have a  
> forwarding partner system that works. For your area I forward to Houston.  
> Remi 6cnb has forwarding partners in Europe and like that. If you can get  
> a packet address for a buddy in bangladeshe we can reliably get mail to  
> him/her. But YOUR National Traffic System is so stand-off-ish that you  
> can not work with a low-life sysop.

Are we finally admitting here that there are TWO NTS SYSTEMS? I think that is correct, but not necessarily right.

I guess I'll receive lots of heat for this, but as far as I'm concerned, let's put the NATIONAL back in National Traffic System. It isn't an INTERNATIONAL Traffic System. I have no interest in trying to deliver so-called NTS traffic to another country, other than the possible exception of CAN.

Gary - AG0N

---

## 146. Re: [BBSSIG:844] Re: NTS

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.ampr.org>  
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 12:57:21 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950320122843.361D-100000@n2wx.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:

>  
>  
> On Sun, 19 Mar 1995, Howard Goldstein wrote:  
>  
> > On Sun, 19 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:  
> > >  
> > > On Fri, 17 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
> > >  
> > > > LH, since you know about all this, please write up a paper on how  
> > > > to use these 2 services and like that. Post it here or if it's long in  
> > > > the TAPR ftp site.  
> > > >  
> > > >  
> > > > Like Karl, I've certainly never heard of either of these, never known  
> > > > there was any way to do non-stateside NTS. I have to wonder whose fault  
> > > > it is. I'll guarantee you, none of the people I forward to know either.  
> > > > I'd bet over 90% of the hams don't know. Where, again, is our League  
> > > > when they are needed? And if it isn't their job to keep the hams educated  
> > > > on such matters, then whose is it?  
> > > >  
> > > >  
> > > Most active NTS ops know overseas stuff is (now - it changes) routed via  
> > > ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^  
> > > 4RN. I'm not sure the league is to blame for everything, be it global  
> > > ^^^  
> > >  
> > > Since Howie is is so very knowledgeable on this subject could you  
> > > narrow it down just a little? Is it w4rn, k4rn, ka4rn, kb4rn, ...

How can I narrow it down? 4RN stands alone. 4RN == Fourth Region Net.

>  
>  
> I AM an active NTS ops! I have my bbs set to forward a proper NTS  
> message the right direction, assuming it has a zipcode (made in usa) and  
> nowhere else!  
>

This begs the question as to the definition of NTS. NTS classically refers to the hierarchy of nets, section, region, area, with TCC to link the area nets.

>  
> Now you Howie state that I'm NOT a NTS ops because I don't know  
> how to send mail overseas.

Let's see, I said "most active NTS ops," somewhat less than an all-inclusive statement.

> You my friend are a reason why the NTS  
> "people" have had "historical" bad luck with the packet bbs network.

Au contraire, F6FBB is one reason why NTS ops have had bad luck with the packet bbs network, and dead letters are another. I'll try to dig up

Woody K4SCL's analyses written from the NTS ops' perspective.

```
> warming or details of NTS routing that are less than highly relevant for
> > most hams operating below the region net level.
>      ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
>
>      I get it! Since I'm operating below the region net level I should
> not be interested. OK I am not interested.
>
```

The statement belies your interest. There's a difference between relevance/need and interest. Operating below the region net level, you have no need to know the mechanics of forwarding. Just as I have no need to know that my internet mail is routed through an smtp link that goes through a hub in DC to reach dingus, section level ops can handle traffic successfully without needing to know the mechanics of routing at the upper levels.

In this context, I'm not using "need to know" as a shield to hide knowledge behind. The knowledge isn't hidden. It just isn't useful for section level ops.

```
> > >
> > If anything this points out how poorly integrated BBSs are with NTS. But
> > then again, most NTS ops don't find much use for the BBS network with the
> > exception of point to point stuff because of historical poor reliability.
> >      ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
>
>      A major reason for the problem we packet bbs sysops with NTS is
> that we operate below the region net level. It's clear we need to get
> some region net level SYSOPS!
>
```

It may be the NTS model is not the correct one for BBSs to adopt.

```
>      Howie, if the best information we can get about the NTS is what
> you present here now, it is amazing that ANY NTS is passed. I have
```

The fount of NTS operating practices doesn't spout forth from my mouth. I never claimed it did. Folks may not like the bad rap packet has amongst NTS, and vice versa, but it pays for both groups to realize that it exists and recognize the valid complaints of both sides.

```
> participated in cw traffic nets (I liked digital modes even before
> packet) until they failed. I now participate in the 80 meter phone net
> for NM that has less than 1 message per day, on average. It takes 10
> times as long to send a message this way, but you don't need to remember
> the code.
>
```

Like yourself, I too was active in digital modes before packet. I've been NCS for a section level cw net (QFN, All-Florida) for 10 of the past 15 years. The net is nowhere near dead. We average 15 checkins per session, and anywhere from 3 to 35 pieces of traffic per day cleared in usually less than half an hour.

NM is perhaps a more difficult environment as you do not have as large a population to draw on in general, and in particular, as large a population of retirees with too much time on their hands to call upon.

```
>      I take you to task on your "historical poor reliability". I get
> mail several times a week from users telling me it took just 2 days to
> reach his son/father/mother via my pbbs. This is because I have a
> forwarding partner system that works. For your area I forward to Houston.
> Remi 6cnb has forwarding partners in Europe and like that. If you can get
> a packet address for a buddy in bangladeshe we can reliably get mail to
> him/her. But YOUR National Traffic System is so stand-off-ish that you
> can not work with a low-life sysop.
```

Oy! Sensitivity to criticism is the worst attitude one can take. I've noticed this world view prevails amongsts the more vocal (fortunately, the minority) of BBS sysops. I never thought I'd hear it from you.

These sysops reply to valid criticism with "but I've put x-thousands of dollars into my system and you have no right to say anything."

A better approach to take is "How can the BBS system integrate with NTS?"

or even "Should the BBS system integrate with NTS?"

Failure to recognize the reliability problem of NTS-over-BBS is an excuse for not dealing with the problem. A poor one, IMO.

>  
> So long as NTS "regional ops" distrust sysop's there can be no  
> improvement in the system. It looks like you Howie are part of the problem.  
>

And I always thought I was part of the solution. Oh well.

How about a technique for end-end acking of NTS messages? Hank's old 820 code used to generate service messages when a KT was issued. This positive ACK was helpful indeed. Even more helpful would be some affirmative protocol instigated by the sourcing BBS that would poll the receiving BBS for receipt and status.

Providing status info back to the sender would go a long way towards removing the stigma associated with NTS-over-BBS. And perhaps my proposal will go a small way towards removing the inverse stigma.

Do you have any constructive comments on this proposal?

Howie

---

## 147. Re: [BBSSIG:845] Re: NTS

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.ampr.org>  
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 14:23:12 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950320141716.509A@n2wx.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>  
>  
> On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
>  
> Line designating quote from Howie inadvertently omitted...  
>  
> >  
> > Most active NTS ops know overseas stuff is (now - it changes) routed via  
> > ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^  
> > 4RN. I'm not sure the league is to blame for everything, be it global  
> > ^^^  
>  
> I say again, then who is?  
>

I don't know. Why does someone have to take the blame? What is to be gained from assigning blame?

...

> >  
> > A major reason for the problem we packet bbs sysops with NTS is  
> > that we operate below the region net level. It's clear we need to get  
> > some region net level SYSOPS!  
>  
> Why would we need RN level sysop? I have no problem with it, just don't  
> see the need for the word sysop instead of user. How about just plain  
> USERS? NTS ops don't operate packet at all in some cases. My area has no  
> one at all that is interested in delivering an NTS message...on any mode,  
> including me! I did my stint on NTS years ago, until I got burned out.  
> One users said he would take the NTS stuff, if any comes in (very few do)  
> so all are sent to him.

The one-NTS-outlet system is in place here. Stuff comes into my local box (KC4IBT) and IBT readdresses it to me. I deliver it because no one else will.

>  
> Are we finally admitting here that there are TWO NTS SYSTEMS? I think  
> that is correct, but not necessarily right.  
>

I agree. Can we remedy this somehow? Should we?

Howie

---

## 148. Traffic Priorities

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)  
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 13:43:57 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <01H0D0CVOHWYSYVVR@tntech.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>TAPR.NEWS BBSSIG Meeting Summary

...  
>Several new items prompted some discussions. There was interest in  
>having a msg type 'E' for emergency traffic. A priority scheme would  
>forward types E, T, P and B in that order. At least one BBS supports  
>multiple msg types and most either forward according to priorities or  
>can be configured to do so.

A very good idea except that the priority should be kept separate from the message type. NTS messages can have three different priorities. In an emergency situation it may be desirable to send certain bulletins at a higher than normal priority.

Here's some suggested priority levels and what messages might, by default, map to the levels.

Lowest priority - bulletins, etc.  
                  personal messages  
                  NTS messages with "normal" priority  
                  Emergency related bulletins  
                  NTS messages with "priority" priority  
Highest priority - NTS messages with "emergency" priority

The mapping to and from NTS priorities must be well defined. The mapping to and from Internet mail (SMTP) priorities, if any exists -- I didn't see it when I looked, should also be well defined.

Jeff, k9ja

---  
Jeffrey Austen           | Tennessee Technological University  
jra1854@tntech.edu       | Box 5004  
+1 615 372 3485         | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

---

## 149. Re: [BBSSIG:846] Re: NTS

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 19:03:45 -0700 (MST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503201813.A18654-0100000@hannibal>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Howard Goldstein wrote:

> On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
>  
> >  
> >  
> > On Sun, 19 Mar 1995, Howard Goldstein wrote:  
> >  
> > > On Sun, 19 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:  
> > >  
> > > > On Fri, 17 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
> > > >  
> This begs the question as to the definition of NTS. NTS classically  
> refers to the hierarchy of nets, section, region, area, with TCC to link  
> the area nets.

I'll have to admit, being an ex-NTS type, that would be my definition also. I think the real question is how to make better use of the BBS system to handle NTS. Notice that I don't consider myself an NTS operator. I am a BBS sysop whose board handles NTS traffic. I don't care if my board EVER handles NTS traffic. But, I consider any piece of NTS traffic on my board to share the highest priority offered. P and T traffic is always first to go out, even moving during quiet hours, when no bulletins at all are handled. Cutting my teeth on NCN and RN6 in the 60s, I still consider NTS to be the highest priority message any of us can handle during a non-emergency. No, that doesn't mean I volunteer to handle it, but it does mean that if I get it, it goes out just as fast as possible.

> It may be the NTS model is not the correct one for BBSs to adopt.

I'm not sure what this means. I think I might agree with it...with more explanation.

> A better approach to take is "How can the BBS system integrate with NTS?"  
> or even "Should the BBS system integrate with NTS?"

This, again, would depend on where you are going to draw the line in the definition of NTS.

> Failure to recognize the reliability problem of NTS-over-BBS is an excuse  
> for not dealing with the problem. A poor one, IMO.

Again, speaking for my area only, NTS moves well on packet. In fact, that's the only way it moves.

> How about a technique for end-end acking of NTS messages? Hank's old  
> 820 code used to generate service messages when a KT was issued. This  
> positive ACK was helpful indeed. Even more helpful would be some  
> affirmative protocol instigated by the sourcing BBS that would poll the  
> receiving BBS for receipt and status.

FBB has the ability to generate an ack back to the originator of any P message. To tell you the truth, I don't know if it will to it on a T type or not. I wish that ALL "brands" did this (upon command). Making it automagic with NTS would be alright too. It would be nice to know that your traffic was picked up on the far end. I have a couple of problem destinations that could use the /ack to great benefit. Actually, on those problem routes, it would be more helpful to have EACH station in the chain provide an ack so a trace could be made to the last station receiving it. That's off the subject though...just another tidbit for the code writers to consider for troubleshooting.

> Do you have any constructive comments on this proposal?  
>  
> Howie

Been der, done dat :)

Gary

---

## 150. Re: [BBSSIG:847] Re: NTS

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 19:09:46 -0700 (MST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503201957.A18654-0100000@hannibal>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Howard Goldstein wrote:

> On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:  
> >  
> >  
> > On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
> >  
> > Line designating quote from Howie inadvertently omitted...  
> > > ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^  
> > > I'm not sure the league is to blame for everything, be it global  
> >  
> > I say again, then who is?  
> >  
> >  
> I don't know. Why does someone have to take the blame? What is to be  
> gained from assigning blame?

Plenty. Usually, if you can assign blame, you can assign responsibility and can then fix the problem.

> > Are we finally admitting here that there are TWO NTS SYSTEMS? I think  
> > that is correct, but not necessarily right.  
> >  
> >  
> I agree. Can we remedy this somehow? Should we?

I think the second question is key. Not saying yes or no...but it needs to be looked at. Again, \*what is\* NTS?

> Howie

Is the horse dead yet?



Gary

---

## 151. Re: [BBSSIG:848] Traffic Priorities

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 19:14:15 -0700 (MST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503201937.A18654-0100000@hannibal>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Mar 1995, Jeffrey Austen wrote:

> A very good idea except that the priority should be kept separate from the  
> message type. NTS messages can have three different priorities. In an  
> emergency situation it may be desirable to send certain bulletins at a  
> higher than normal priority.

Good point, and correct (IMHO).

> Here's some suggested priority levels and what messages might, by default,  
> map to the levels.  
>   Lowest priority -   bulletins, etc.  
>                       personal messages  
>                       NTS messages with "normal" priority  
>                       Emergency related bulletins  
>                       NTS messages with "priority" priority  
>   Highest priority - NTS messages with "emergency" priority

One was left out. E type Personal packet messages should also be included just below E NTS.

> Jeff, k9ja

Gary - AG0N

---

## 152. [BBSSIG:846] Re: NTS

From: sysop@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 1995 05:16:00 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <950320225509344@phx-az.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On 03-20-95 HG@N2WX.AMPR.ORG wrote to ALL...

H > From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.ampr.org>  
H > To: bbssig@tapr.org  
H > Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 13:10:35 -0600  
H > Subject: [BBSSIG:846] Re: NTS  
H >

H > Au contraire, F6FBB is one reason why NTS ops have had bad luck with  
H > the  
H > packet bbs network, and dead letters are another. I'll try to dig up  
H > Woody K4SCL's analyses written from the NTS ops' perspective.

This is an understatement. When I first started FBB up here in its olden golden days, NTS became a COMPLETE DISASTER. The local NTS ops finally had me just stop NTS at my board and they deliver it. Now the whole state feeds me the NTS and it gets manually carressed. The latest versions of FBB have not corrected the problems either...Hopefully Jean-Paul's latest will address the problems...I can only hope...

Dan

-----                               \-----/                               -----  
                                          Arizona Network Intertie Group  
                                          "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP | Voice: +1-602-912-5671 |
| P.O. Box 45378             | Fax : +1-602-912-0426  |
| Phoenix, Arizona           | BBS : +1-602-912-0225  |
| 85064-5378                 |                        |

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com  
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

... OFFLINE 1.42

---

**153. @WW Server 44.76.5.138???**

From: Brian Ellse <briane@iaccess.za>  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 1995 12:05:51 +0000  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503211235.B25550-0100000@goofy.iaccess.za>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

Can anyone tell me what the problem is with the server run by Remi F6CNB at Sugarland, Texas. I have been unable to access the server for the last ten days, a tracroute showing the path is open to mirrorshades.uscd, and then it is dead. I have sent Remi e-mail, but it doesnt appear to have gotten through.

Is there another site where I can get @WW bulletins on a daily basis? My users really enjoy the volumes of @WW that I have been getting from Remi's server (44.76.5.138), and I would like to continue to provide this service to them.

Thank you for any replies or info you may be able to offer me.

73's de Brian  
ZR5DTS@ZS0WTE.KZN.ZAF.AF (Sysop of the Highway BBS)

---

**154. Re: [BBSSIG:848] Traffic Priorities**

From: "Kenneth F. Jones" <0003672208@mcimail.com>  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 95 01:57 EST  
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <83950321065738/0003672208NA3EM@MCIMAIL.COM>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Jeff K9JA mentioned the "three" NTS message precedences, but I believe there are four: Routine, Priority, Welfare, EMERGENCY. That is my understanding at least, although I've never seen anything above Routine precedence.

Beats me why a ham would sit on an EMERGENCY precedence message (life and death stuff, it says here) waiting for a net to call a session anyway... maybe in those places where radio is \_it\_... (are there any of those?)

I seem to recall that there used to be suggested time-span guidelines for NTS traffic, with Routine going 2-3 days from writer to reader and working down from there to a matter of hours for E-precedence messages. Haven't seen those figures in some years...

In an effort to understand just how this all comes together, would a bbsysop answer how NTS messages are handled normally within the packet universe?

When users type in messages (correctly, har-har) on their local BBS, to whom are they forwarded? Is there a state-level NTS server at which messages are collected and forwarded, e.g. @NTS\* routes to my state server by whatever path it takes to get there for further digital routing based on the state or for reading into a section or regional net? If that isn't how it works, how does it?

Where does a voice or Morse NTS op go to find out what digital handling capabilities are available in a given area?

Cheers!

Ken Jones, KB3JA

MCI Mail 367-2208  
Internet 3672208@MCIEmail.com  
AX.25 KB3JA@KE3NR.#SEPA.PA.USA.NOAM

---

**155. Re: [BBSSIG:852] Re: NTS**

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 1995 06:00:58 -0700 (MST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950321055252.20784B-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 21 Mar 1995, Daniel Meredith wrote:

>  
> On 03-20-95 HG@N2WX.AMPR.ORG wrote to ALL...  
>  
> H > From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.ampr.org>  
> H > To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> H > Date: Mon, 20 Mar 1995 13:10:35 -0600  
> H > Subject: [BBSSIG:846] Re: NTS  
> H >  
>  
> H > Au contraire, F6FBB is one reason why NTS ops have had bad luck with  
> H > the  
> H > packet bbs network, and dead letters are another. I'll try to dig up  
> H > Woody K4SCL's analyses written from the NTS ops' perspective.  
>  
>  
> This is an understatement. When I first started FBB up here in its olden  
> golden days, NTS became a COMPLETE DISASTER. The local NTS ops finally  
> had me just stop NTS at my board and they deliver it. Now the whole state  
> feeds me the NTS and it gets manually carressed. The latest versions of  
> FBB have not corrected the problems either...Hopefully Jean-Paul's latest  
> will address the problems...I can only hope...

I fail to see the problem you talk to Dan. I was having problems with NTS until I borrowed the post office zip code book and set up forwarding of NTS properly. Now I have zero problems with NTS and I use F6FBB software. This morning I had a T for Deming, NM so I sent a smtp message to ka5oyo in deming to pick up and deliver the mail.

The thread of the ongoing discussion with Howie is over international TS mail. I still don't know how to do that.

- karl k5di

---

## 156. Re: [BBSSIG:854] Re: Traffic Priorities

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 95 7:02:38 CST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9503211302.AA145375@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

How all within the (ham) community find out about each other's communications capabilities is to have meetings where all can compare notes. One of the jobs of the section leadership is to make such opportunities for people to figure out how than can better work together. Such meetings can, if necessary, coincide with a hamfest, but are best held as stand-alone events.

It has often been said that hams are lousy communicators. Maybe reluctant is better than lousy. It is possible for the an NTS digital structure to co-exist with a 'secular' digital structure, but takes a lot of deliberate dialogs between the two to make sure the traffic gets routed properly.

Dave

---

## 157. Re: [BBSSIG:853] @WW Server 44.76.5.138???

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 1995 06:06:37 -0700 (MST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950321060232.20784C-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Brian I am sure that Remi is either on travel status with his oil company or back in France on an r&r or his computers are broke. He is still forwarding to me via the gateway circuit so part of the system still is working. But it seems the f6fbb software is more stable than nos...

karl k5di

On Tue, 21 Mar 1995, Brian Ellse wrote:

> Hi All,  
>  
> Can anyone tell me what the problem is with the server run by Remi F6CNB  
> at Sugarland, Texas. I have been unable to access the server for the last  
> ten days, a tracroute showing the path is open to mirrorshades.uscd, and  
> then it is dead. I have sent Remi e-mail, but it doesnt appear to have  
> gotten through.  
>  
> Is there another site where I can get @WW bulletins on a daily basis? My  
> users really enjoy the volumes of @WW that I have been getting from  
> Remi's server (44.76.5.138), and I would like to continue to provide this  
> service to them.  
>  
> Thank you for any replies or info you may be able to offer me.  
>  
> 73's de Brian  
> ZR5DTS@Z50WTE.KZN.ZAF.AF (Sysop of the Highway BBS)  
>  
>

---

## 158. [BBSSIG:852] Re: NTS

From: "Young, Gregory" <GYoung@ubmede.buffalo.edu>  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 95 11:29:00 PST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <2F6F290E@ubmed.buffalo.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi guys/gals:

What seems to be the problem with forwarding NTS via FBB?

I have had it running here in WNY, with the traffic moving quite smoothly into/out from the area without a glitch, for the last 2 years. Working with our traffic handlers, I KNOW the NTS is getting to its intended areas. I would check into your setup in the forward.sys, and make sure you are using the Z forwarding corectly. Then you need to make sure your neighbors running FBB are setup correctly, as well.

Usually most problems with "software" result from poor documentation/lack of time spent on completely reading the docs... no matter whose software it is.  
73, Greg

---

## 159. Education Working Group

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 1995 13:09:22 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199503211909.NAA10300@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Anyone else want in on the Education WOrking Group? I've sent the signup information to those people who have replied. If I missed you or you want in, drop me a note.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow        WA0RJT        Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net        wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 160. Re: [BBSSIG:858] Re: NTS

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.mpcs.com>  
Date: Tue, 21 Mar 1995 16:21:42 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950321160823.205F-100000@n2wx.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

There are still three outstanding questions:

1. How do I route international NTS via packet BBS?

I don't know the answer to this question. If it were my BBS I'd bounce it for forwarding to someone active on conventional NTS nets.

2. What is NTS?

In a nutshell, NTS is system designed to carry formal written traffic through a hierachy of realtime nets linked together by liason stations. For a more accurate and detailed answer, see the ARRL Operating Manual.

3. Is integration of conventional NTS nets and packet BBSs handling



Now, locating the best person for this interface function is not a particularly challenging task, and it's a one-time thing, from the perspective of the SYSOP. But the question is begged, "How do I FIND this person?". I believe the most correct answer to that question lies in the means of success of other digital forwarding systems around the country. One way to mimic that success is to go to Page 8 of QST, locate the ARRL Section Manager for your Section and BEG for her help. Nuttin' wrong with begging here, folks, honestly. You want the problem to go away? Go see your SM!

Now, there's personalities and mindsets that you'll want to creatively deal with, during the begging process. Let me delve into that briefly. See, one problem that may come up is that the person your SM chooses to make your problems go away may have some incorrect notions of what part 97 allows for. These things change, of course and have in fact changed in recent years with regard to "allowable" Amateur Radio message traffic. Most of you are at least somewhat aware of these changes, to the point where YOU know that a piece of traffic destined for Outer Slobovia (with whom we don't have a third party traffic agreement) can in fact be sent now without violating the rules. And YOU know that traffic that conducts the business of IBM, ABC, or XYZ can also be sent now, because of the recent rules changes. Problem is, your new-found NTS/BBS interface person might not understand these things, which could lead to problems. So my suggestion is that your begging process should include a desire to locate someone who is understanding of today's Part 97 regulations and whose goal it is to help relieve the multiple black eyes that absolutely do and will occur when the two systems don't play well together.

>>2. What is NTS?

>> In a nutshell, NTS is system designed to carry formal written traffic  
>>through a hierarchy of realtime nets linked together by liaison stations.  
>>For a more accurate and detailed answer, see the ARRL Operating Manual.

That's a reasonable nutshell, Howie. I'd also point out that the ARRL Public Service Communications Manual is a LOT cheaper (it's free), and deals entirely and exclusively with NTS & ARES matters. But I'm biased; I wrote the last several editions of the PSCM before they fired me almost a year ago.

>>>3. Is integration of conventional NTS nets and packet BBSs handling  
>>>formal written traffic possible?

>> Probably yes, but not to any great extent without significant changes to  
>>either or both systems.

It's already being done in many many areas. Where it succeeds is where there's complete and absolute cooperation between the BBS SYSOP and the NTS community. My FAVORITE scheme is one that some members of the digital forwarding community tend to rebel violently about, but since it works, let me briefly mention it here so that you can decide for yourselves:

1. In cooperation with the Section Manager and/or her designee, the Section Traffic Manager, one or more large-area BBSs are designated as the "Section Traffic Nodes". These are BBSs (regardless of the mode) where the traffic community regularly and religiously agrees to poll for T type traffic at LEAST once a day. Better yet, several times a day, but especially just prior to the meeting times of the traffic nets that they choose to frequent.
2. In return for this cooperation from the NTS community, the SYSOPS agree without question to forward NO (zero, nada, none-whatsoever) T type traffic.

Pretty radical, eh? Well it works. And here's why. If you look at the "problem" and IF you agree that the problem is related to frequently lost or frequently delayed T type traffic, and IF you understand that the problem may very well be not your fault at all, but rather that of systems down the road a piece that occasionally burp, lose power, or go down for the long haul, THEN you can understand why the above suggestion works well.

Nobody suggests that any of the long-standing problems are anybody's fault in particular. But the logical (and correct) conclusion is that the NTS system works because it's managed by humans. It has coordination. On the other hand, the digital forwarding systems have MANY things in their favor. Things like incredible accuracy that the managed-by-humans system can not ever HOPE to emulate, and -- generally speaking -- pretty reasonable throughput.

The two systems need each other. Desperately. If they work together -- and history shows us that they CAN when people understand the need -- then the problems go away.

-----  
Luck Hurder, KY1T      \*\* KY1TLUCK@AOL.COM \*\*  
AX.25 - KY1T@N4GAA.CT      TCP/IP - 44.88.2.59 (KY1T-2)  
Supporter of AMSAT, TAPR, HANDIHAMS and NARA  
-----

## 163. Re: [BBSSIG:861] TAPR Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)  
Date: Wed, 22 Mar 1995 13:16:33 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <01H0FRYI2IHEDT01UF@tntech.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>TNOS release 1.12 (coming real soon now) will enforce the TAPR  
>Hierarchical Addressing Protocol (x.3.4) as published.

I hate to stand in the way of progress but.... This may not be a good idea because some people get rather emotional about things ("we've always done it this way and no #&\*&^\* is going to tell me how to do it now"). Also, some areas may, for whatever reason, not be able or want to change yet.

I'd suggest the following (for all code distributions, not just TNOS):  
+ output a warning message when the 'mbox haddress' is non-standard  
+ provide a rewrite file, or portion thereof, with the lines that converts all current variations to the standard form; include instructions for merging this file into an already existing rewrite file  
+ include a copy of the TAPR standard with the distribution

Jeff, k9ja

---  
Jeffrey Austen            | Tennessee Technological University  
jra1854@tntech.edu       | Box 5004  
+1 615 372 3485          | Cookeville Tennessee 38505    U.S.A.

## 164. no subject (file transmission)

From: jra@ag9v.ampr.org  
Date: Wed, 22 Mar 1995 16:57:43 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199503222157.QAA07160@ag9v.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Dayton Activities

Attending the 1995 Dayton Hamvention? Then don't miss out on PACK\*BASH!

What?

A new event for the digitally-inclined ham, featuring:  
\* Buffet dinner (with cash bar)  
\* Nationally-known speaker holding forth on a current topic  
\* Prize raffle  
\* TAPR special interest group meetings  
\* "Birds of a Feather" gatherings

When?

Friday evening, April 28, 1995  
Dinner starts at 7:00 pm  
Speaker at 7:45  
Meetings to begin after the speaker

Where?

TJ's Restaurant  
2462 Dryden Road, Dayton  
(Dryden Road exit, I75 -- across from the Holiday Inn)

How?

Dinner requires advance registration and payment BY APRIL 24th, 1995. Seating for dinner only is limited, so register early! The cost is \$16.00 per person, tax and tip included.

All amateurs are welcomed to attend, enjoy the speaker, and participate in the meetings, although only those purchasing a dinner can eat.

To register, contact:  
PACK\*BASH  
c/o TAPR

8987-309 E. Tanque Verde Road #337  
Tucson, AZ 85749-9399

Phone: (817) 383-0000  
Fax: (817) 566-2544  
Internet: TAPR@TAPR.ORG

Visa/Mastercard Accepted

Who?

PACK\*BASH is co-sponsored by TAPR -- Tucson Amateur Packet Radio,  
the national leader in digital communication -- and the Miami  
Valley FM Association, Dayton's packet radio club.

For further information, contact TAPR, or email packbash@ag9v.ampr.org or  
BASH@N8ACV.#DAY.OH.USA.NOAM

---

### 165. Re: [BBSSIG:864] no subject (file transmission)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 22 Mar 1995 17:54:43 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199503222354.RAA17204@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi

Any luck finding a spot for the BBSSIG on Saturday night? How  
about outdoors in the parking lot by Sears at Salem Mall?

I'm leaving Saturday for 2 weeks. I'll check in when I get back.  
73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

### 166. Re: [BBSSIG:864] no subject (file transmission)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 22 Mar 1995 17:58:14 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199503222358.RAA17225@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

John,

Does the dinner replace the McNasty's event?

Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

### 167. Re: [BBSSIG:866] Re: no subject (file transmission)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Wed, 22 Mar 1995 18:46:07 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199503230046.SAA07327@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Barry,

Yes McNasty's has been replaced with hopefully better food, warmer  
environment, and lots of good discussion and fun.

We are still trying to find the fellow that wanted to host the BBS SIG  
meeting on Saturday at the Roadway Inn. I lost his business card and can;t  
locate him. If anyone has a name and callsgin -- would be a great help!

Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD

According to Barry Buelow WA0RJT:  
>  
> John,  
>



> Does the dinner replace the McNasty's event?  
>  
> Barry  
>  
> --  
>  
> Barry Buelow       WA0RJT       Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
> barry@ia.net       wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam  
>  
>

---

## 168. Re: [BBSSIG:862] Re: NTS

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@n2wx.ampr.org>  
Date: Wed, 22 Mar 1995 22:50:55 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950322223151.603B-100000@n2wx.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Luck Hurder wrote:

>  
> >>I'd like to hear Luck's take on this thread. Luck?  
>  
> Fair enough; I'll try...  
>  
> >> 1. How do I route international NTS via packet BBS?  
> >> I don't know the answer to this question. If it were my BBS I'd  
> >>bounce it for forwarding to someone active on conventional NTS nets.  
>  
> That's accurate enough, except that ideally, you'd want that someone to be a  
> someone  
> who is EXTREMELY familiar with the NTS system. And, as you correctly point  
> out, ACTIVE on that system on a regular/religiously-consistent basis. Why is  
> this important? Because to route it to "just" an individual who "does  
> traffic" often means that eventually/occasionally, the person will stick it  
> right back into another digital forwarding system, thus thwarting the intent  
> of your giving it to him in the first place. Now I understand completely why

Thank you for expressly giving voice to something I had only implied. In my experience, the active traffic handler is the conscientious one, a person committed above all other operating goals to moving the traffic along.

Letting a piece of traffic die on the hook is the only cardinal sin in traffic handling. It's the sin that gave packet/NTS such a bad rep.

> >>2. What is NTS?  
>  
> >> In a nutshell, NTS is system designed to carry formal written traffic  
> >>through a hierachy of realtime nets linked together by liason stations.  
> >>For a more accurate and detailed answer, see the ARRL Operating Manual.  
>  
> That's a reasonable nutshell, Howie. I'd also point out that the ARRL Public  
> Service Communications Manual is a LOT cheaper (it's free), and deals entirely  
> and exclusively with NTS & ARES matters. But I'm biased; I wrote the last  
> several editions of the PSCM before they fired me almost a year ago.

Forgive me for overlooking the PSCM. For many years the little white pamphlet was my teacher and bible, and it has been too long since I've seen one (my tattered, dog eared copy disappeared in a move years ago). The PSCM is the definitive reference.

>  
> >>>3. Is integration of conventional NTS nets and packet BBSs handling  
> >>>formal written traffic possible?  
>  
> >> Probably yes, but not to any great extent without significant changes to  
> >>either or both systems.  
>  
> It's already being done in many many areas. Where it succeeds is where  
> there's complete and absolute cooperation between the BBS SYSOP and the NTS  
> community. My FAVORITE scheme is one that some members of the digital  
> forwarding community tend to rebel violently about, but since it works, let  
> me briefly mention it here so that you can decide for yourselves:  
>

Neat idea. Do you have any thoughts on how to approach BBS coordinating bodies with a proposal? You can tell from the discussion that a few sincere ops are skeptical about the existence of a problem.

---

## 169. Re: @WW Server

From: kb2hjc@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org  
Date: Fri, 24 Mar 95 13:29:54 EST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <25933@alt.kb2hjc.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello

Is there any other servers Like the one F6CNB provides  
I can connect to 44.76.5.138 But its a slow link to here in SNJ

If anyone else can provide this service (@ww and @usa usbbs types)

it would be appreciated

73 Mike KB2HJC @ ALT.KB2HJC.AMPR.ORG

PS- Plse Respond directly to me if possible

\*\*\*\*\*  
Amprnet: KB2HJC@NX2B.AMPR.ORG           AX.25: KB2HJC@KB2HJC.#SNJ.NJ.USA.NOAM  
Email: COMPUSERVE 75550.130           Internet: 75550.130@compuserve.com  
Voice: 145.110 Rpt. PL 3B           Phone: Being Changed  
TCP/IP-Netrom: [44.65.32.24] IPHJC:KB2HJC-8 & BBSTST:KB2HJC-15 AA4RE\_2.1R  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 170. schedule

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@zeus.ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 24 Mar 1995 12:49:55 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199503241849.MAA27636@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Folks,

I've been real busy at work and haven't had too much time to comment lately. The NTS thread seems to be doing pretty well.

I'll be away on a business and pleasure trip for awhile and I've asked Dave Wolf to keep an eye on the things.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow       WA0RJT       Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net       wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 171. NTS Messages

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 25 Mar 1995 15:17:10 -0700 (MST)  
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950325144652.5341A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

After a lot of words and not much learned by me at least, this is the status of National Traffic System (NTS) in the USA and Canada:

1. NTS does not exist outside the USA and Canada. NTS packet radio messages without a proper Zipcode will be sent to the bit bucket.
2. Many Packet Radio BBS Sysops are not educated in the use of NTS mail or have decided it isn't worth the trouble.
3. Even fewer pbbs Users are educated in using the NTS system.
4. The traditional traffic network on voice or slow digital (CW) networks does not trust the Packet Radio Network, and vise versa.
5. In the USA and Canada the telephone company sells time on his network for a small cost. For this reason there is only a rare NTS message that contains real information. Most are like "having fun at the zoo. Wish you were here, Love Marg".
6. To the south things are differant. A telephone call from Mexico to the USA is expensive! So it would seem that NTS "type" messages would be more useful if they could be passed. But they must not be called NTS.

With 1. through 6. understood it is small wonder that few NTS messages are passed by packet radio. As long as the numbers are small and the value of the message dubious, we are going to get no-where. If we don't get more traffic then there is no reason to get good at passing it.

The k5di pbbs will attempt to deliver every NTS message received for this area that has a phone number. Emergency NTS will get delivered if at all possible. Further I will forward every NTS message to the pbbs that should be able to forward or deliver the mail.

Until for some reason the NTS mail gets more use or the content becomes more useful I will not try and educate my users to use NTS. I will continue to check into the local State voice traffic net and use it to pass traffic received by packet for Clayton, NM. Packet radio hasn't got to Clayton yet...:-)

-karl

---

## 172. Re: [BBSSIG:861] TAPR Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

From: hanko@wv.MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Mon, 27 Mar 95 09:38:58 PST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9503270938.ZM21459@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mar 21, 10:56pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:861] TAPR Hierarchical Addressing Protocol  
> TNOS release 1.12 (coming real soon now) will enforce the TAPR  
> Hierarchical Addressing Protocol (x.3.4) as published. The 'mbox haddress'  
> command will NOT accept an address that is not using one of the 19  
> 4-character Continent Identifiers listed in the protocol or an address  
> that is not using a 3-character Country Identifier.  
>  
> While I have avoided coding in items that restrict the user, I believe  
> that the Protocol, as recommended by TAPR's BBSSIG and TAPR's board, is  
> important and should be adopted.

Technical question: what do you mean by "not accept" ?  
Could mean "refuses", in which case the message will hit the bit bucket - not a good solution.  
Could mean "accepts but alters the address", a better solution.  
Could mean "accepts but notifies sysop and does not forward".

It is very important that bbs systems follow the protocol as set down in the bbs spec. This protocol does not allow for the refusal of any traffic except for duplicate copies of flood bulletins ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

## 173. Re: [BBSSIG:872] Re: TAPR Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Mon, 27 Mar 1995 13:46:55 +0000  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9503271355.R138-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 27 Mar 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Mar 21, 10:56pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:861] TAPR Hierarchical Addressing Protocol  
> > TNOS release 1.12 (coming real soon now) will enforce the TAPR  
> > Hierarchical Addressing Protocol (x.3.4) as published. The 'mbox haddress'  
> > command will NOT accept an address that is not using one of the 19  
> > 4-character Continent Identifiers listed in the protocol or an address  
> > that is not using a 3-character Country Identifier.  
> >  
> > While I have avoided coding in items that restrict the user, I believe  
> > that the Protocol, as recommended by TAPR's BBSSIG and TAPR's board, is

> > important and should be adopted.  
>  
>  
> Technical question: what do you mean by "not accept" ?  
> Could mean "refuses", in which case the message will hit the bit  
> bucket - not a good solution.  
> Could mean "accepts but alters the address", a better solution.  
> Could mean "accepts but notifies sysop and does not forward".

What this means ('not accept') is that that command will not accept a non-standard Address. This command is used to set your OWN stations haddress, used in the R: lines that YOU generate.

This has NOTHING at all to do with what other may/may not do.

I don't believe that altering anothers address in ANY WAY is a good idea. Everyone has the right to be wrong. If someone chooses what WE might believe to be incorrect, what right do WE have to change how THEY identify themself?

> It is very important that bbs systems follow the protocol as set  
> down in the bbs spec. This protocol does not allow for the refusal  
> of any traffic except for duplicate copies of flood bulletins ...

Never proposed anything like this. Read more into it then was there....

>  
> ... Hank  
>

-----  
Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 174. Serial port overruns & Phone forwarding

From: MPFahmie@lbl.gov (Mike Fahmie)  
Date: Thu, 30 Mar 1995 17:49:08 -0800  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199503310148.RAA00788@ux5.lbl.gov>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Serial port overruns/frame errors and phone modems that don't use error detection can cause errors/gaps in text that frequently go undetected until someone tries to read the message.

AA4RE BBS software, V2.13R, includes a 16 bit checksum (encoded in 4 ascii characters) at the end of the text when connected to another system whose SID indicates support for checksums. This provides error detection over those periods that AX-25 is not in control and should catch the serial and phone errors almost everytime.

I'm curious which of the other popular BBS programs have this feature. I haven't seen my 4RE system use it except with other 4RE BBS's. It's such a simple solution, I'd be surprised if it's not included in other packages.

Mike Fahmie - WA6ZTY @ N6EEG - MPFahmie@lbl.gov  
Advanced Light Source - Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

---

# April 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9504

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9504](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9504)

## 1. BPQ Paper

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 2 Apr 1995 13:48:12 -0600 (MDT)  
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950402134038.4484A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi guys, I have put my paper bpqpaper.zip into the /tapr/UPLOAD directory of tcet.unt.edu and would like any of you with access to Word for Windows version 2 upwards to download this .zip file and read this paper and see if it covers your experience using the BPQ Switch.

If you desire to send some changes or additional printed matter in almost any format, please .zip it and put it in the same place you got my paper. Then e-mail me the info that you put it there and I will get it asap. Of course Word for Windows version 6 is what I use.

73, de karl k5di

---

## 2. Re: [BBSSIG:875] BPQ Paper

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Mon, 3 Apr 95 7:48:57 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504031248.AA147508@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks, Karl, for doing this work. I'm looking forward to reading the finished version. Will see if WFW ver 2 will decipher enough of it or will look at it as a txt file! 73 de Dave W05H

---

## 3. Re: [BBSSIG:876] Re: BPQ Paper

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 3 Apr 1995 08:16:00 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950403081235.25175B-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 3 Apr 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

> Thanks, Karl, for doing this work. I'm looking forward to reading the  
> finished version. Will see if WFW ver 2 will decipher enough of it or  
> will look at it as a txt file! 73 de Dave W05H  
>

Fine Dave, well this version is about 90% complete. I am hoping for ideas from others on what else to cover.

As for WFW ver 2 if it doesn't run just like a WFW file I will call my buddy Bill Gates and complain! His software said it was saving it in version 2...maybe I can sue?...:-)

-karl

---

## 4. DEAD!

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Date: Tue, 4 Apr 1995 10:34:47 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9504041031.A2799-0100000@hannibal>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Has the system quit? Haven't heard anything from anyone on any of the three sigs for a week or more. Nada.

Dan's FBB list is the only thing being received at this time.

Gary

P.S. My apologies if this blurts out to the whole world, but if everyone else's has been dead too, it won't be a problem :)

---

## 5. Re: [BBSSIG:878] DEAD!

From: hanko@wv.MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Tue, 4 Apr 95 10:47:16 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504041047.ZM28091@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Apr 4, 11:52am, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:878] DEAD!  
>  
> Has the system quit? Haven't heard anything from anyone on any of the  
> three sigs for a week or more. Nada.  
>  
> Dan's FBB list is the only thing being received at this time.  
>  
> Gary  
>  
> P.S. My apologies if this blurts out to the whole world, but if everyone  
> else's has been dead too, it won't be a problem :)

Well, actually, ALL the problems have been resolved, so there  
is no reason for any further discussion!

1. Continent designators all switched over to the four character  
standard set everywhere in the world.
2. All bbs systems have standardized their headers to the "ka2bqe/w0rli  
minimal header suggestion."
3. Bulletin To: and @bbs field standards have been adopted by everyone,  
and users have been well educated. We no longer see bulletins  
addressed to ALL.
4. All forwarding protocol problems have been solved by all the bbs  
authors. Every bbs code handles all the cases correctly.
5. Our new HF forwarding network works so well that no sysop would  
even consider the use of the internet or other commercial means;  
they are far too slow.

(This IS early April, right?)

... Hank

<giggle> appended here.

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

## 6. Re: [BBSSIG:879] Re: DEAD!

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 4 Apr 1995 14:23:55 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950404142001.29746B-100000@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 4 Apr 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

- > 1. Continent designators all switched over to the four character  
> standard set everywhere in the world.

True. At least I hope by now... But then again, some do not like  
change.. I also beleive that they are the ones who don't like the bid  
that some stations put on and change the bid...

- > 2. All bbs systems have standardized their headers to the "ka2bqe/w0rli  
> minimal header suggestion."

That would be nice. I love reading the Amsat bulletins from Europe...  
Mostly headers...

- > 3. Bulletin To: and @bbs field standards have been adopted by everyone,  
> and users have been well educated. We no longer see bulletins

> addressed to ALL.

Doubtful. Maybe someday...

> 4. All forwarding protocol problems have been solved by all the bbs  
> authors. Every bbs code handles all the cases correctly.

Finally.

> 5. Our new HF forwarding network works so well that no sysop would  
> even consider the use of the internet or other commercial means;  
> they are far too slow.

Excellent... It must use that new modulation technique of Imaginary  
Oscillation... (That was from April fools a few years ago...)

> (This IS early April, right?)

You're only 3 days late... Happy belated April Fools day...

> <giggle> appended here.

Agreed... {Grin}

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg Unviersity \*  
\* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

## 7. Re: [BBSSIG:878] DEAD!

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 4 Apr 1995 15:47:49 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950404154024.23626B-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 4 Apr 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>  
> Has the system quit? Haven't heard anything from anyone on any of the  
> three sigs for a week or more. Nada.

Well it's all rather quiet after the big flurry just before the  
tapr meeting.

>  
> Dan's FBB list is the only thing being received at this time.  
>  
> Gary  
>  
> P.S. My apologies if this blurts out to the whole world, but if everyone  
> else's has been dead too, it won't be a problem :)  
>

Well not much to report but can say here that I have asked the  
bbs sysops to try my idea for using your city name as a local address in  
your h-address. You can use up to 6 letters and I made mine:

k5di.cruces.nm.usa.noam

about 3 months ago and it has made the rounds with my White Paper stuff  
and so far as I can tell it is all over and I still get my mail on a  
regular basis.

Soon I hope to have all the other bbs in NM and El Paso TX using  
this method. It will be fun to see what the user's think of it.

73, karl, k5di

## 8. Re: [BBSSIG:875] BPQ Paper

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Date: Tue, 4 Apr 1995 22:11:45 -0300  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504050111.AA05719@bud.peinet.pe.ca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Hi guys, I have put my paper bpqpaper.zip into the /tapr/UPLOAD  
> directory of tcet.unt.edu and would like any of you with access to Word

>for Windows version 2 upwards to download this .zip file and read this  
>paper and see if it covers your experience using the BPQ Switch.  
>  
A very good paper Karl but it stops in mid-sentence on page 13, line 18  
after the paragraph about old drivers. I think you mentioned its still a  
"work-in-progress" so just checking.  
Using Word v2 I saved the file as DOS text with formatting (\*.asc) to post  
on the BBS  
in plain text. It might be a good idea to upload a plain-text version when  
completed.

73 - Ron  
velaia

---

## 9. Re: [BBSSIG:878] DEAD!

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Wed, 5 Apr 95 8:00:45 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504051300.AA185918@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>  
> Has the system quit? Haven't heard anything from anyone on any of the  
> three sigs for a week or more. Nada.  
>  
> Dan's FBB list is the only thing being received at this time.  
>  
> Gary  
>  
> P.S. My apologies if this blurts out to the whole world, but if everyone  
> else's has been dead too, it won't be a problem :)  
>  
We're all taking a breather!

Dave W05H

---

## 10. BPQ Paper

From: jkbe@aluxs.att.com (John Bednar)  
Date: Wed, 5 Apr 95 12:44:44 EDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504051644.AA01193@lena>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Hi guys, I have put my paper bpqpaper.zip into the /tapr/UPLOAD  
> directory of tcet.unt.edu and would like any of you with access to Word  
> for Windows version 2 upwards to download this .zip file and read this  
> paper and see if it covers your experience using the BPQ Switch.

> 73, de karl k5di

I went looking for this paper and didn't find an UPLOAD directory.  
Is the paper still available?

John

---

## 11. Re: [BBSSIG:884] BPQ Paper

From: rmackay@bud.peinet.pe.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Date: Wed, 5 Apr 1995 19:32:07 -0300  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504052232.AA05026@bud.peinet.pe.ca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>> Hi guys, I have put my paper bpqpaper.zip into the /tapr/UPLOAD  
>> directory of tcet.unt.edu and would like any of you with access to Word  
>> for Windows version 2 upwards to download this .zip file and read this  
>> paper and see if it covers your experience using the BPQ Switch.  
>  
>> 73, de karl k5di  
>  
>I went looking for this paper and didn't find an UPLOAD directory.  
>Is the paper still available?  
>  
>John  
>  
John you probably did what I did and went to tapr instead of tcet. (the old  
location



for tapr files but still available).

73 - Ron  
velaic

---

## 12. Re: [BBSSIG:884] BPQ Paper

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 5 Apr 1995 17:37:57 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950405173653.6228C-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 5 Apr 1995, John Bednar wrote:

```
>  
> > Hi guys, I have put my paper bpqpaper.zip into the /tapr/UPLOAD  
> > directory of tcet.unt.edu and would like any of you with access to Word  
> > for Windows version 2 upwards to download this .zip file and read this  
> > paper and see if it covers your experience using the BPQ Switch.  
>  
> > 73, de karl k5di  
>  
> I went looking for this paper and didn't find an UPLOAD directory.  
> Is the paper still available?  
>  
> John  
>
```

Hi John, I hope it is still there. I didn't take it out. But the owner may have....:-)

-karl

---

## 13. home again

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Apr 1995 09:16:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199504101416.JAA04362@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello,  
I'm back home again and catching up on the mail.  
73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow        WA0RJT        Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net        wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 14. MSYS woes..

From: Terrence Ryan <n3fih@omni.voicenet.com>  
Date: Mon, 10 Apr 1995 16:22:05 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.950410160258.15852B-100000@omni>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Just curious, is anyone familiar with any problems in MSYS when running a lot of modem forwarding? I've got a couple of systems up, all pretty much alike, (dos 6.2, MSYS 1.17/18, smartdrv, hivideo, 4mb ram, you know..) and one system keeps crashing almost daily. I've re-installed various versions of MSYS, upgraded processors, tried different dosses, put various permutations of things high, the whole 9 yards. Still crashes. Copied all the 'helper' files from a machine that runs for months at a time and only comes down when we bring it down for a service visit, no luck. The only thing that distinguishes this machine is that it has a modem in it (14.4) and gets 600-900 messages a day via modem. When it dies, it's usually while the modem is forwarding. Unplug the modem but leave it installed and configured, NO CRASH. I've checked for interrupt conflicts, made sure FBB forwarding for that port is disabled, all looks clean. If anyone has had similar experiences with MSYS, I'd appreciate hearing from you.

Thanks,  
Terry Ryan n3fih@omni.voicenet.com

---

## 15. Question

From: bonzai!hank@aluxpo.att.com (Hank Pustarfi)  
Date: Wed, 12 Apr 1995 19:17:27 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <m0rzBf6-0005TqC@bonzai.cnet.att.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

What issue is the latest PSR and when was it mailed?

Thanks Hank

---

## 16. Re: [BBSSIG:888] MSYS woes..

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 13 Apr 1995 11:51:51 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950412135048.23145A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Terry, I don't know why MSYS has problems with the telephone but I can assure you that users of FBB also have problems with it crashing during or after a telephone session. I refuse to use the telephone on FBB but did verify that FBB will NOT compress messages it sends out over a telephone port. It uses the FBB method of file forwarding however, sending first the titles to 5 messages, and after a response sending the needed messages. But FBB uses the arciver bis-32 that is in the new fast modems.

I run a Telephone bbs and know a great deal about modems and fossils. The Hams that write the pbbs software may be expert on modems and fossils as well, but I have no way of knowing. And based on the number that crash daily it would seem they know little. My Telephone bbs has not crashed for over a month!

If I were in charge of designing a telephone forwarding system I would use the "Binkley Mailer", Freeware telephone mailer system. This software takes little ram and is designed to accept and send files using the Zed-Zap. This has been worked on for over 7 years and is solid software. I run it and will be glad to put it up for anyone wishing to play with it.

Binkley has a scheduler that can be used to delay mail delivery until the period when telephone rates are lowest. You can tell it to run a batch file that, for instance, pkzip's the file you made of bulletins and put it into the /outbound directory addressed for the particular bbs you want to forward to.

Binkley will check the /inbound directory for any packets and then run a batch file that pkunzips the received bulletins and places them in the right directory for addition to the pbbs.

The best of worlds would have the Ham bbs set up to interface with Binkley. Then the telephone forwards would be done without crashing and data loss and all those other problems.

I will be willing to look at this in detail if the sysop crowd wants to know about it. And I well may do it just to get from my home in Las Cruces to northern NM. Nobody seems able to build a good packet radio network over the 250 mile path so the phone is the only way.

-karl k5di

---

## 17. Re: [BBSSIG:890] Re: MSYS woes..

From: "Gary McDuffie, Sr." <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Date: Thu, 13 Apr 1995 12:43:14 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9504131244.A21289-0100000@hannibal>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 13 Apr 1995, Klarsen wrote:

>  
> Terry, I don't know why MSYS has problems with the telephone but  
> I can assure you that users of FBB also have problems with it crashing  
> during or after a telephone session. I refuse to use the telephone on FBB  
> but did verify that FBB will NOT compress messages it sends out over a  
> telephone port. It uses the FBB method of file forwarding however,  
> sending first the titles to 5 messages, and after a response sending the  
> needed messages. But FBB uses the arciver bis-32 that is in the new fast  
> modems.

Hmm...what am I doing wrong? My phone port has never crashed! It even forwards with msys and doesn't lose data! Surely I must need help to break it more. :) My users love it. I put all sorts of things that I

won't allow on the main board there.

As for the 250 mile non-existent path... why not just drop it until they put a network up on the path? As long as the telephone port works, there will be no reason for them to even think about it.

Me again,  
Gary

---

## 18. Re: [BBSSIG:891] Re: MSYS woes..

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 13 Apr 1995 17:50:05 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950413174356.21082A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 13 Apr 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

>  
>  
> On Thu, 13 Apr 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
>  
> Hmm...what am I doing wrong? My phone port has never crashed! It even  
> forwards with msys and doesn't lose data! Surely I must need help to  
> break it more. :) My users love it. I put all sorts of things that I  
> won't allow on the main board there.  
>

Hi Gary, and it does seem to be the FBB guys that have problems with the phone port. Just now I got home and both my forwarding partners with phone ports are down. The other 3, counting mine are still up and running after weeks of service.

> As for the 250 mile non-existent path... why not just drop it until they  
> put a network up on the path? As long as the telephone port works, there  
> will be no reason for them to even think about it.

>  
> Me again,  
> Gary  
>

Your right Gary, but nothing seems to make any difference. I try to shame the other guys into buying 9600 baud stuff but that falls on deaf ears...hi

73, karl again

---

## 19. BBS for Baycom

From: Andrew Zimmerman <andrewz@leba.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Apr 1995 16:13:07 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.90.950414160957.23656B-100000@fig.leba.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Does anyone know of any BBS software that supports the Baycom-style modems? I have NOS, but that uses a different method of storing and reading messages that some users don't appreciate. Also, are there any Baycom programs that work under Linux or OS/2? Thank you.

Andrew, AA3AK

---

## 20. PACK\*BASH Friday evening at Hamvention

From: jra@ag9v.ampr.org  
Date: Fri, 14 Apr 1995 11:09:19 -0400 (EDT)  
To: netsig@tapr.org, bbssig@tapr.org, tapr-bb@tapr.org,  
nos-bbs@hydra.carleton.ca  
Message-ID: <199504141509.LAA02371@ag9v.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Attending the 1995 Dayton Hamvention? Time's running out, so register now for PACK\*BASH!

What?

- A new event for the digitally-inclined ham, featuring:
- \* Buffet dinner (with cash bar)
  - \* Nationally-known speaker holding forth on a current topic
  - \* Prize raffle
  - \* TAPR special interest group meetings
  - \* "Birds of a Feather" gatherings

When?

Friday evening, April 28, 1995  
Dinner starts at 7:00 pm  
Speaker at 7:45  
Meetings to begin after the speaker

Where?

TJ's Restaurant  
2462 Dryden Road, Dayton  
(Dryden Road exit, I75 -- across from the Holiday Inn)

How?

Dinner requires advance registration and payment BY APRIL 24th, 1995.  
Seating for dinner only is limited, so register early! The cost is \$16.00 per person, tax and tip included.

All amateurs are welcomed to attend, enjoy the speaker, and participate in the meetings, although only those purchasing a dinner can eat.

To register, contact:  
PACK\*BASH  
c/o TAPR  
8987-309 E. Tanque Verde Road #337  
Tucson, AZ 85749-9399

Phone: (817) 383-0000  
Fax: (817) 566-2544  
Internet: TAPR@TAPR.ORG

Visa/Mastercard Accepted

Who?

PACK\*BASH is co-sponsored by TAPR -- Tucson Amateur Packet Radio, the national leader in digital communication -- and the Miami Valley FM Association, Dayton's packet radio club.

For further information, contact TAPR, or email packbash@ag9v.ampr.org or BASH@N8ACV.#DAY.OH.USA.NOAM

--  
John Ackermann AG9V  
Internet: jra@ag9v.ampr.org  
Packet: AG9V@N8ACV.#DAY.OH.USA

---

## 21. [BBSSIG:892] Re: MSYS woe

From: sysop@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)  
Date: Sun, 16 Apr 1995 06:42:00 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <950416000132388@phx-az.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

K>From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
K>To: bbssig@tapr.org  
K>Date: Thu, 13 Apr 1995 18:58:17 -0500  
K>Subject: [BBSSIG:892] Re: MSYS woes..

K>On Thu, 13 Apr 1995, Gary McDuffie, Sr. wrote:

K>>  
K>>  
K>> On Thu, 13 Apr 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
K>>  
K>> Hmm...what am I doing wrong? My phone port has never crashed! It even  
K>> forwards with msys and doesn't lose data! Surely I must need help to  
K>> break it more. :) My users love it. I put all sorts of things that I  
K>> won't allow on the main board there.  
K>>  
K> Hi Gary, and it does seem to be the FBB guys that have problems  
K>with the phone port. Just now I got home and both my forwarding partners  
K>with phone ports are down. The other 3, counting mine are still up and  
K>running after weeks of service.

K>> As for the 250 mile non-existent path... why not just drop it until they

K>> put a network up on the path? As long as the telephone port works, there  
K>> will be no reason for them to even think about it.  
K>>  
K>> Me again,  
K>> Gary  
K>>  
K> Your right Gary, but nothing seems to make any difference. I try  
K>to shame the other guys into buying 9600 baud stuff but that falls on  
K>deaf ears...hi  
  
K>73, karl again

Karl,  
You'll be into Phx @ 9600 this summer...The equipment is sitting  
here ready to go...We are minus a duplexor and the building of the  
Bit-Regen...

Regards...

Dan

```

-----\-----/-----
              Arizona Network Intertie Group
            "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP                Voice: +1-602-912-5671
P.O. Box 45378                            Fax : +1-602-912-0426
Phoenix, Arizona                         BBS : +1-602-912-0225
85064-5378

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

---
* OLXWin 1.00 * MSI HQ! BBS - Home of Off-Line Xpress 805-873-2400

```

## 22. Re: [BBSSIG:895] Re: MSYS woe

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 16 Apr 1995 07:20:42 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950416070837.27641A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 16 Apr 1995, Daniel Meredith wrote:

```

> K>From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
> K>To: bbssig@tapr.org
> K>Date: Thu, 13 Apr 1995 18:58:17 -0500
> K>Subject: [BBSSIG:892] Re: MSYS woes..
>
> Karl,
> You'll be into Phx @ 9600 this summer...The equipment is sitting
> here ready to go...We are minus a duplexor and the building of the
> Bit-Regen...
>
> Regards...
>
>
> Dan

```

Hi Dan, that will be nice but I'm into Tucson now with an almost  
9600 baud simplex route. It's kinda funny. Stuff for Glenn WB7TLS leaves  
my bbs at 9600 baud to El Paso where it rockets around in N5RG's hamshack  
for an instant and then up to ELP. There at 1200 baud it goes 200 miles  
to Silver City. There it becomes 9600 again to HELIO. At HELIO it  
digipeates via the Catalina Radio Club's NOS to WB7TLS. Complex but it works.

From what I hear you should look closer to home. It seems the  
links from Phx to Tucson are not good. Just hear-say.

73, karl k5di

## 23. [BBSSIG:896] Re: MSYS woe

From: sysop@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 03:00:00 GMT

To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <950416200504391@phx-az.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

K> Hi Dan, that will be nice but I'm into Tucson now with an almost  
K>9600 baud simplex route. It's kinda funny. Stuff for Glenn WB7TLS leaves  
K>my bbs at 9600 baud to El Paso where it rockets around in N5RG's hamshack  
K>for an instant and then up to ELP. There at 1200 baud it goes 200 miles  
K>to Silver City. There it becomes 9600 again to HELIO. At HELIO it  
K>digipeates via the Catalina Radio Club's NOS to WB7TLS. Complex but it works.

K> From what I hear you should look closer to home. It seems the  
K>links from Phx to Tucson are not good. Just hear-say.

K>73, karl k5di

No need to look closer to home when they are working better than they  
have ever before. We'll like it or not, You'll have 9600 into Phoenix.  
Not sure where you get your info, but White Tanks to LMN has been  
flawless for about 4 months now. The only problem is LMN is still on  
.010 and WB7TLS is behind the mountain and can hardly hit LMN. I don't  
have a bit of say for LMN so I concentrate on my own network. I'm  
certain you have the same type of situations on your end :-)

Enough on flooding the net hi :-)

Dan

----- \-----/ -----  
Arizona Network Intertie Group  
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP | Voice: +1-602-912-5671 |
| P.O. Box 45378             | Fax : +1-602-912-0426  |
| Phoenix, Arizona           | BBS : +1-602-912-0225  |
| 85064-5378                 |                        |

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com  
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

---  
\* OLXWin 1.00 \* All wiyht. Rho sritched mg kegtops aound?

---

## 24. Re: [BBSSIG:897] Re: MSYS woe

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 04:56:16 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950417045016.8906B-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 16 Apr 1995, Daniel Meredith wrote:

>  
> K> Hi Dan, that will be nice but I'm into Tucson now with an almost  
> K>9600 baud simplex route. It's kinda funny. Stuff for Glenn WB7TLS leaves  
> K>my bbs at 9600 baud to El Paso where it rockets around in N5RG's hamshack  
> K>for an instant and then up to ELP. There at 1200 baud it goes 200 miles  
> K>to Silver City. There it becomes 9600 again to HELIO. At HELIO it  
> K>digipeates via the Catalina Radio Club's NOS to WB7TLS. Complex but it works.  
>  
> K> From what I hear you should look closer to home. It seems the  
> K>links from Phx to Tucson are not good. Just hear-say.  
>  
> K>73, karl k5di  
>  
>  
> No need to look closer to home when they are working better than they  
> have ever before. We'll like it or not, You'll have 9600 into Phoenix.  
> Not sure where you get your info, but White Tanks to LMN has been  
> flawless for about 4 months now. The only problem is LMN is still on  
> .010 and WB7TLS is behind the mountain and can hardly hit LMN. I don't  
> have a bit of say for LMN so I concentrate on my own network. I'm  
> certain you have the same type of situations on your end :-)  
>  
> Enough on flooding the net hi :-)  
>  
> Dan

I think we are flooding the net with REAL network stuff Dan. I am

amazed by the pride or whatever that makes hams work against each other in networks, but they do. It is a fact worldwide that small close groups can get things done. Distance spawns contempt.

And whatever it will mean, it WILL be NICE to have any route to Phx. We had one about 5 years ago but it died...:-)

karl k5di

---

## 25. Re: [BBSSIG:893] BBS for Baycom

From: lawrence@combdyn.com (Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen)  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 95 9:41:52 MDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504171541.AA29597@combdyn>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Andrew Zimmerman:

>  
> Does anyone know of any BBS software that supports the Baycom-style  
> modems? I have NOS, but that uses a different method of storing and  
> reading messages that some users don't appreciate. Also, are there any  
> Baycom programs that work under Linux or OS/2? Thank you.  
>

I believe both MSYS and FBB will work with Baycom-style modems. I know you can use Baycom-style modems with BPQ....

I currently run JNOS/FBB with BPQ driving 3 KISS TNCs.

--  
WORK: lawrence@combdyn.com | PHONE 403 529 2162 | FAX 529 2516 | VE6LKC  
HOME: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca | 403 526 6019 | 529 5102 | VE6PAQ  
-----  
Praxis Society K12 BBS - 403 529 1610 | Lunatic Haven BBS - 403 526 6957  
-----  
disclamer = (working\_for && !representing) + (Combustion Dynamics Ltd.);

---

## 26. Re: [BBSSIG:897] Re: MSYS woe

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 08:46:34 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199504171603.LAA08059@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>K> Hi Dan, that will be nice but I'm into Tucson now with an almost  
>K>9600 baud simplex route. It's kinda funny. Stuff for Glenn WB7TLS leaves  
>K>my bbs at 9600 baud to El Paso where it rockets around in N5RG's hamshack  
>K>for an instant and then up to ELP. There at 1200 baud it goes 200 miles  
>K>to Silver City. There it becomes 9600 again to HELIO. At HELIO it  
>K>digipeates via the Catalina Radio Club's NOS to WB7TLS. Complex but it works.  
>

>K> From what I hear you should look closer to home. It seems the  
>K>links from Phx to Tucson are not good. Just hear-say.  
>

>K>73, karl k5di  
>  
>

>No need to look closer to home when they are working better than they  
>have ever before. We'll like it or not, You'll have 9600 into Phoenix.  
>Not sure where you get your info, but White Tanks to LMN has been  
>flawless for about 4 months now. The only problem is LMN is still on  
>.010 and WB7TLS is behind the mountain and can hardly hit LMN. I don't  
>have a bit of say for LMN so I concentrate on my own network. I'm  
>certain you have the same type of situations on your end :-)  
>

>Enough on flooding the net hi :-)  
>

>Dan  
>

>----- \-----/ -----  
> Arizona Network Intertie Group  
> "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"  
>

>Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP Voice: +1-602-912-5671  
>P.O. Box 45378 Fax : +1-602-912-0426  
>Phoenix, Arizona BBS : +1-602-912-0225  
> 85064-5378  
>

>List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com

>Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator  
>  
>---  
> \* OLXWin 1.00 \* All wiyht. Rho sritched mg kegtops aound?

Hi Dan, glad to learn of the network improvements. There still seems to be a problem though. At least the last couple of times I've probed from the south to find a path to the PHX node, I couldn't make it. None of the regular Arizona backbone nodes show up down this way. Appears you have your portion of the system locked down pretty tight. I'm sure the little keyboarders down this way would be pleased if you would allow them to navigate into the rest of the world.

73 de Jack

---

## 27. Re: [BBSSIG:899] Re: BBS for Baycom

From: lawrence@combdyn.com (Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen)  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 95 10:36:41 MDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504171636.AA00654@combdyn>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen:

>  
> According to Andrew Zimmerman:  
> >  
> > Does anyone know of any BBS software that supports the Baycom-style  
> > modems? I have NOS, but that uses a different method of storing and  
> > reading messages that some users don't appreciate. Also, are there any  
> > Baycom programs that work under Linux or OS/2? Thank you.  
> >  
> I believe both MSYS and FBB will work with Baycom-style modems. I know you  
> can use Baycom-style modems with BPQ....  
>

Actually, I'm told that MSYS doesn't directly support Baycom modems....but you can run it under BPQ....

> I currently run JNOS/FBB with BPQ driving 3 KISS TNCs.  
>

--

WORK: lawrence@combdyn.com | PHONE 403 529 2162 | FAX 529 2516 | VE6LKC  
HOME: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca | 403 526 6019 | 529 5102 | VE6PAQ

-----  
Praxis Society K12 BBS - 403 529 1610 | Lunatic Haven BBS - 403 526 6957  
-----

disclamer = (working\_for && !representing) + (Combustion Dynamics Ltd.);

---

## 28. song

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Date: Mon, 17 Apr 1995 15:04:10 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199504172220.RAA09764@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

This came in today on another newsgroup. In view of recent discussion here about the shift from RF linking to reliance on the internet, I thought it appropriate to be reposted here.

73 de Jack

>  
>Yesterday (Sunday), a cloudy day, while out on an afternoon  
>walk, this song (or a version of it) came into my head and  
>has been rolling around. Can't seem to get rid of it. The  
>anthem we may be singing in 30 years. It is not an "up beat"  
>song by any means. I guess I need a long vacation....  
>

>Words sung to the tune of Dylan's (?) "Where have all..."  
>(the real title escapes me right now; forgive me if I have  
>the attribution also wrong, as I have Peter,Paul & Mary images  
>of who I last saw sing it).  
>-----

>  
>Where have all our radios gone?  
> Gone from memory.  
>Where have all our radios gone?  
> Gone far away.  
>Where have all our radios gone?  
> Gone every one of them.



```

>Oh when will they ever return,
> Oh when will they return?
>
>Where have all the Philcos gone?
> Gone to museums.
>Where have all the Hallis gone?
> Gone far away.
>Where have all the Collins gone?
> Gone to fight their last war.
>Oh when will they ever return,
> Oh when will they return?
>
>Where have all the glow tubes gone?
> Gone to land fills.
>Where have all the glow tubes gone?
> Gone far away.
>Where have all the glow tubes gone?
> Gone ever' last one.
>Oh when will they ever return,
> Oh when will they return?
>
>Where has all Morse gone?
> Gone all digital.
>Where has all AM gone?
> Gone far away.
>Where has all shortwave gone?
> Gone to satellite.
>Oh when will they ever return,
> Oh when will they return?
>
>Where has ham radio gone?
> Gone to telephone.
>Where have all the newbies gone?
> Gone to play PacMan.
>Where have all the elmers gone?
> Gone SK all of them.
>Oh when will they ever return,
> Oh when will they return?
>
>Where has all the mystery gone?
> Gone virtual reality.
>Where has all the excitement gone?
> Gone far away.
>Where has all the wonder gone?
> Gone to solid state.
>Oh when will they return,
> Oh when will they return?
>
>Where have all our radios gone?
> Gone from memory.
>Where have all our radios gone?
> Gone far away.
>Where have all our radios gone?
> Gone every one of them.
>Oh when will they ever return,
> Oh when will they return?
>-----
>Cheers/73.      kevin, kb9iua
>
>* * * * *
>Kevin L. Anderson, CENCR-PD-W, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
>Rock Island District Office, Planning Div.-Waterway Systems
>Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004, USA phone:(309) 794-5586
> e-mail: anderson@ncrsun1.ncr.usace.army.mil
>* * * * *
>Opinions expressed here are my own and do not represent the
> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Federal Government.
>
>

```

## 29. [BBSSIG:900] Re: MSYS woe

```

From: sysop@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)
Date: Tue, 18 Apr 1995 04:58:00 GMT
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <950417222747398@phx-az.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

```

JT>Hi Dan, glad to learn of the network improvements. There still seems to be
JT>a problem though. At least the last couple of times I've probed from the

```

JT>south to find a path to the PHX node, I couldn't make it. None of the  
JT>regular Arizona backbone nodes show up down this way. Appears you have your

JT>portion of the system locked down pretty tight. I'm sure the little  
JT>keyboarders down this way would be pleased if you would allow them to  
JT>navigate into the rest of the world.

JT>73 de Jack

That is an impossibility as the DRSI/Radio combination on MRP-5 died and nobody cared enough to offer any assistance to fix or help out. The keyboarders can connect to my PBBS and use the 'G' feature (F6FBB Software) as several in the Tucson area have found. The only problem is enough channels to support it, you get a busy signal here and there but evenings are pretty good since I don't forward during primetime. :-)

I appreciate your interest indeed, there isn't any "lockdown," simply no radios or TNC's performing that function. I've only had 2 users ask what happened to it, and this has been over 2 months now. If people were interested in helping out once and awhile we wouldn't be having this conversation :-) My dilemma right now is where to put antennas in my new home, CC&R's on Antenna's in Awahtukee :-)

Dan

```
-----\-----/-----
        Arizona Network Intertie Group
        "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"
```

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP | Voice: +1-602-912-5671 |
| P.O. Box 45378             | Fax : +1-602-912-0426  |
| Phoenix, Arizona           | BBS : +1-602-912-0225  |
| 85064-5378                 |                        |

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com  
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

---  
\* OLXWin 1.00 \* Back Up My Hard Drive? I Can't Find The Reverse Switch!

---

### 30. Re: BBS for Baycom

From: Andrew Zimmerman <andrewz@leba.net>  
Date: Wed, 19 Apr 1995 12:29:33 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.90.950419122743.29633A-100000@fig.leba.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I downloaded BPQ408A.ZIP from TAPR and there is no reference to Baycom in the documentation. Am I missing something? Thanks.

On Mon, 17 Apr 1995, Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen wrote:

```
> According to Lawrence *The Dreamer* Chen:
> >
> > According to Andrew Zimmerman:
> > >
> > > Does anyone know of any BBS software that supports the Baycom-style
> > > modems? I have NOS, but that uses a different method of storing and
> > > reading messages that some users don't appreciate. Also, are there any
> > > Baycom programs that work under Linux or OS/2? Thank you.
> > >
> > I believe both MSYS and FBB will work with Baycom-style modems. I know you
> > can use Baycom-style modems with BPQ....
> >
> Actually, I'm told that MSYS doesn't directly support Baycom modems....but you
> can run it under BPQ....
>
> > I currently run JNOS/FBB with BPQ driving 3 KISS TNCs.
> >
> >
> --
> WORK: lawrence@combdyn.com      | PHONE 403 529 2162 | FAX 529 2516 | VE6LKC
> HOME: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca |      403 526 6019 |      529 5102 | VE6PAQ
>
> -----
> Praxis Society K12 BBS - 403 529 1610 | Lunatic Haven BBS - 403 526 6957
> -----
```

> disclaimer = (working\_for && !representing) + (Combustion Dynamics Ltd.);  
>

---

### 31. Re: [BBSSIG:904] Re: BBS for Baycom

From: lawrence@combdyn.com (Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen)  
Date: Wed, 19 Apr 95 10:42:24 MDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504191642.AA15189@combdyn>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Andrew Zimmerman:

>  
> I downloaded BPQ408A.ZIP from TAPR and there is no reference to Baycom  
> in the documentation. Am I missing something? Thanks.  
>  
You need to get the Baycom driver for BPQ (something like BPQAX25.ZIP).

--  
WORK: lawrence@combdyn.com | PHONE 403 529 2162 | FAX 529 2516 | VE6LKC  
HOME: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca | 403 526 6019 | 529 5102 | VE6PAQ  
-----  
Praxis Society K12 BBS - 403 529 1610 | Lunatic Haven BBS - 403 526 6957  
-----  
disclaimer = (working\_for && !representing) + (Combustion Dynamics Ltd.);

---

### 32. Re: BBS for Baycom

From: Andrew Zimmerman <andrewz@leba.net>  
Date: Wed, 19 Apr 1995 22:21:04 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.90.950419221936.23922A-100000@fig.leba.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Any idea where I can find BPQAX25.ZIP? Thank you.

On Wed, 19 Apr 1995, Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen wrote:

> According to Andrew Zimmerman:  
> >  
> > I downloaded BPQ408A.ZIP from TAPR and there is no reference to Baycom  
> > in the documentation. Am I missing something? Thanks.  
> >  
> You need to get the Baycom driver for BPQ (something like BPQAX25.ZIP).  
>

---

### 33. Re: [BBSSIG:906] Re: BBS for Baycom

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Wed, 19 Apr 95 22:31:57 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504200331.AA148545@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> Any idea where I can find BPQAX25.ZIP? Thank you.  
>  
> On Wed, 19 Apr 1995, Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen wrote:  
>  
> > According to Andrew Zimmerman:  
> > >  
> > > I downloaded BPQ408A.ZIP from TAPR and there is no reference to Baycom  
> > > in the documentation. Am I missing something? Thanks.  
> > >  
> > You need to get the Baycom driver for BPQ (something like BPQAX25.ZIP).  
> >  
>

Andrew, and anyone else interested:

I have uploaded the file BPQAX2.ZIP (don't know if the '5' is significant) to the new file upload area of the tapr.org server. It is in the software\_lib area. It must be released by the sysop before it is avail for downloads.

Enjoy ;-)

Dave W05H

---

### 34. BBSSIG meeting at Dayton

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJY <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 19 Apr 1995 23:41:24 -0500 (CDT)

To: tapr-bb@tapr.org, bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: farmnet@ia.net  
Message-ID: <199504200441.XAA29459@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

The TAPR BBSSIG will meet in Dayton, Ohio in conjunction with the Hamvention.

When: Saturday evening April 29, beginning at 7:00pm

Where: Radison Hotel - Premier Room  
The Radison is located near the intersection of I-75 and Needmore Rd. This is not far from Hara Arena.  
Parking can be a problem, so try to car pool.  
New feature this year - CHAIRS !!!

This is a great opportunity to meet with fellow BBS Sysops and discuss current events and plans for the future. TAPR membership is not a requirement, this event is open to the public.

For more information, stop by the TAPR booth at HARA.

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

### 35. Re: [BBSSIG:906] Re: BBS for Baycom

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 20 Apr 1995 05:00:57 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950420045852.29683A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 19 Apr 1995, Andrew Zimmerman wrote:

> Any idea where I can find BPQAX25.ZIP? Thank you.  
>  
> On Wed, 19 Apr 1995, Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen wrote:  
>  
> > According to Andrew Zimmerman:  
> >  
> > I downloaded BPQ408A.ZIP from TAPR and there is no reference to Baycom  
> > in the documentation. Am I missing something? Thanks.  
> >  
> > You need to get the Baycom driver for BPQ (something like BPQAX25.ZIP).  
> >  
>

I suggest you call PacComm and find out what the cost of the software written for Baycom is and order it.

---

### 36. ARLB040 FCC data on Internet (fwd)

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Thu, 20 Apr 95 7:41:19 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504201241.AA155325@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forgive my reposting something you may already have, but this was interesting enough that I thought some folks might miss some useful news since the 'noise level' of incoming mail is so great for some of us via packet.

Did you know that you can obtain ARRL bulletins from a list server now? If the SIG wants instructions, I'll be happy to post them. I've found that ARRL Bulletins still arrive via packet faster than they get posted to the server, however, it's good backup for many. For others without reliable bulletin service, it would be a defininte improvement.

73 de Dave W05H

Forwarded message:

> From owner-wlaw-list@netcom.com Thu Apr 20 07:13:37 1995  
> Subject: ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
> To: QST@arrrl.org  
> From: wlaw@arrrl.org  
> Organization: American Radio Relay League  
> Date: Tue, 18 Apr 1995 16:39:01 EDT  
> Message-Id: <\$arlb040.1995@ampr.org>

> Sender: owner-w1aw-list@netcom.com  
 > Precedence: list  
 >  
 > SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB040  
 > ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
 >  
 > ZCZC AG07  
 > QST de W1AW  
 > ARRL Bulletin 40 ARLB040  
 > >From ARRL Headquarters  
 > Newington CT April 18, 1995  
 > To all radio amateurs  
 >  
 > SB QST ARL ARLB040  
 > ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
 >  
 > FCC data on Internet  
 >  
 > The Federal Communications Commission is now offering the complete  
 > amateur service database on the Internet, via the FCC's file  
 > transfer protocol (ftp) site.  
 >  
 > This new service marks the beginning of electronic granting of  
 > licenses at the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. As soon  
 > as the data for a new license appears in the database, the license  
 > is effective and all privileges of that license may be exercised by  
 > the licensee.  
 >  
 > Licensees will no longer need to wait to receive a license document  
 > in the mail; they may use the database as proof of licensing and go  
 > on the air immediately.  
 >  
 > The database will be updated every Monday by noon (Eastern Time).  
 >  
 > Information may be retrieved using the following procedure:  
 >  
 > Access: anonymous ftp.fcc.gov  
 > Directory: pub/XFS AlphaTest/amateur  
 > Documentation: readme.txt  
 >  
 > The FCC's Consumer Staff in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, can answer  
 > questions at 800-322-1117 or 717-337-1212.  
 > NNNN  
 > /EX  
 >  
 >

### 37. Re: [BBSSIG:906] Re: BBS for Baycom

From: lawrence@combdyn.com (Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen)  
 Date: Thu, 20 Apr 95 11:24:49 MDT  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <9504201724.AA09183@combdyn>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Andrew Zimmerman:

>  
 > Any idea where I can find BPQAX25.ZIP? Thank you.  
 >  
 > On Wed, 19 Apr 1995, Lawrence \*The Dreamer\* Chen wrote:  
 >  
 > > According to Andrew Zimmerman:  
 > > >  
 > > > I downloaded BPQ408A.ZIP from TAPR and there is no reference to Baycom  
 > > > in the documentation. Am I missing something? Thanks.  
 > > >  
 > > > You need to get the Baycom driver for BPQ (something like BPQAX25.ZIP).  
 > > >  
 > >

The only place I know of off hand is the Land Line BBSs listed in my SIG.

You'll need to call at least twice, since unvalidated accounts can't download.

Its in file area #1202 - as BPQAX25.ZIP

Since this is the HDN Packet area....you can probably find another system on the Ham Dist. Network....there's supposedly an FTP site, but I don't know where.

--

WORK: lawrence@combdyn.com | PHONE 403 529 2162 | FAX 529 2516 | VE6LKC  
HOME: dreamer@lhaven.uumh.ab.ca | 403 526 6019 | 529 5102 | VE6PAQ  
-----  
Praxis Society K12 BBS - 403 529 1610 | Lunatic Haven BBS - 403 526 6957  
-----  
disclamer = (working\_for && !representing) + (Combustion Dynamics Ltd.);

### 38. Re: [BBSSIG:910] ARLB040 FCC data on Internet (fwd)

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 20 Apr 1995 18:00:29 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950420175805.7885B-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hey Dave, your wires are crossed...I have not seen the  
information you included and it's good, but it is for US VE hams not US  
PBBBS guys.....:-)

-karl k5di

On Thu, 20 Apr 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

> Forgive my reposting something you may already have, but this was  
> interesting enough that I thought some folks might miss some useful news  
> since the 'noise level' of incoming mail is so great for some of us via  
> packet.  
>  
> Did you know that you can obtain ARRL bulletins from a list server now?  
> If the SIG wants instructions, I'll be happy to post them. I've found  
> that ARRL Bulletins still arrive via packet faster than they get posted  
> to the server, however, it's good backup for many. For others without  
> reliable bulletin service, it would be a defininte improvement.  
>  
> 73 de Dave W05H  
>  
> Forwarded message:  
> > From owner-wlaw-list@netcom.com Thu Apr 20 07:13:37 1995  
> > Subject: ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
> > To: QST@arrl.org  
> > From: wlaw@arrl.org  
> > Organization: American Radio Relay League  
> > Date: Tue, 18 Apr 1995 16:39:01 EDT  
> > Message-Id: <\$arlb040.1995@ampr.org>  
> > Sender: owner-wlaw-list@netcom.com  
> > Precedence: list  
> >  
> > SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB040  
> > ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
> >  
> > ZCZC AG07  
> > QST de W1AW  
> > ARRL Bulletin 40 ARLB040  
> > >From ARRL Headquarters  
> > Newington CT April 18, 1995  
> > To all radio amateurs  
> >  
> > SB QST ARL ARLB040  
> > ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
> >  
> > FCC data on Internet  
> >  
> > The Federal Communications Commission is now offering the complete  
> > amateur service database on the Internet, via the FCC's file  
> > transfer protocol (ftp) site.  
> >  
> > This new service marks the beginning of electronic granting of  
> > licenses at the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. As soon  
> > as the data for a new license appears in the database, the license  
> > is effective and all privileges of that license may be exercised by  
> > the licensee.  
> >  
> > Licensees will no longer need to wait to receive a license document  
> > in the mail; they may use the database as proof of licensing and go  
> > on the air immediately.  
> >  
> > The database will be updated every Monday by noon (Eastern Time).

> >  
> > Information may be retrieved using the following procedure:  
> >  
> > Access: anonymous ftp.fcc.gov  
> > Directory: pub/XFS AlphaTest/amateur  
> > Documentation: readme.txt  
> >  
> > The FCC's Consumer Staff in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, can answer  
> > questions at 800-322-1117 or 717-337-1212.  
> > NNNN  
> > /EX  
> >  
> >  
>  
>  
>

---

### 39. Re: [BBSSIG:912] Re: ARLB040 FCC data on Internet (fwd)

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Fri, 21 Apr 95 1:06:51 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504210606.AA168282@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Huh?

>  
>  
> Hey Dave, your wires are crossed...I have not seen the  
> information you included and it's good, but it is for US VE hams not US  
> PBBS guys....:-)  
>  
>  
> -karl k5di  
>  
>  
>  
> On Thu, 20 Apr 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:  
>  
> > Forgive my reposting something you may already have, but this was  
> > interesting enough that I thought some folks might miss some useful news  
> > since the 'noise level' of incoming mail is so great for some of us via  
> > packet.  
> >  
> > Did you know that you can obtain ARRL bulletins from a list server now?  
> > If the SIG wants instructions, I'll be happy to post them. I've found  
> > that ARRL Bulletins still arrive via packet faster than they get posted  
> > to the server, however, it's good backup for many. For others without  
> > reliable bulletin service, it would be a defininte improvement.  
> >  
> > 73 de Dave W05H  
> >  
> > Forwarded message:  
> > > From owner-w1aw-list@netcom.com Thu Apr 20 07:13:37 1995  
> > > Subject: ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
> > > To: QST@arrl.org  
> > > From: w1aw@arrl.org  
> > > Organization: American Radio Relay League  
> > > Date: Tue, 18 Apr 1995 16:39:01 EDT  
> > > Message-Id: <\$arlb040.1995@ampr.org>  
> > > Sender: owner-w1aw-list@netcom.com  
> > > Precedence: list  
> > >  
> > > SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB040  
> > > ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
> > >  
> > > ZCZC AG07  
> > > QST de W1AW  
> > > ARRL Bulletin 40 ARLB040  
> > > >From ARRL Headquarters  
> > > >Newington CT April 18, 1995  
> > > >To all radio amateurs  
> > > >  
> > > SB QST ARL ARLB040  
> > > ARLB040 FCC data on Internet  
> > >  
> > > FCC data on Internet  
> > >  
> > > The Federal Communications Commission is now offering the complete  
> > > amateur service database on the Internet, via the FCC's file





Arizona Network Intertie Group  
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP  
P.O. Box 45378  
Phoenix, Arizona  
85064-5378

Voice: +1-602-912-5671  
Fax : +1-602-912-0426  
BBS : +1-602-912-0225

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com  
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

---

\* OLXWin 1.00 \* This tagline is umop apisdn

---

## 42. Re: [BBSSIG:914] Re: BBS for Baycom

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 22 Apr 1995 05:53:20 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950422054505.19783A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I was in error. Since I tried to find bpqax25.zip for a ham in town and did not succeed I assumed it was Baycom software. That was a wrong assumption. Dave Wolf put the file on the tapr.com computer and I got it a few days ago. If it is still where I found it do this:

ftp to ftp.tapr.org and cd to tapr and then to the software\_lib directory. Then go to the UPLOAD directory and use cap letters. There get bpqax2.zip and you too will have it!

-karl k5di

On Fri, 21 Apr 1995, Andrew Zimmerman wrote:

> Is the Baycom driver produced by Paccom? What is their phone# or e-mail  
> address?  
>  
> On Thu, 20 Apr 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
>  
> > On Wed, 19 Apr 1995, Andrew Zimmerman wrote:  
> >  
> > > Any idea where I can find BPQAX25.ZIP? Thank you.

---

## 43. TAPR @ Dayton '95

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Sun, 23 Apr 1995 21:39:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing), netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing),  
hfsig@tapr.org (HF SIG mailing), aprssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199504240239.VAA14970@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

TAPR Activities at Dayton '95

-----

Dayton is almost upon us and here is the list of TAPR activities and events happening during Dayton. We hope to see lots of folks around and please stop by the TAPR booth and say hi!

TAPR Booth

-----

The booth is located at the same location as the last several years. We should have most items and kits available and another big membership offer will be available to new members! Come by and say hi to the TAPR gang and if you want, help out behind the table. The more the merrier.

Regional Groups Note: If you are with a regional digital group, please stop by and chat with Greg Jones, WD5IVD about how TAPR can do things with your regional group. There will also be a place at the booth to place regional materials, so if you have something to hand out, drop it off.

Friday - TAPR Digital Forum

-----

|                 |                                                              |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1:00pm - 1:45pm | Introduction to Digital Communications<br>Greg Jones, WD5IVD |
| 1:45pm - 2:00pm | TAPR Update<br>John Ackerman, AG9V                           |
| 2:00pm - 2:30pm | Layer 1 and Radio Issues<br>Mel Whitten, K0PFX               |
| 2:30pm - 3:00pm | TAPR/AMSAT DSP-93 Project Update<br>Bill Reed, WD0ETZ        |
| 3:00pm - 3:30pm | TCP/IP Issues and Trends<br>Barry McLaren, VE3JF             |
| 3:30pm - 3:45pm | BBS Issues and Trends<br>Barry Buelow, WA0RJT                |
| 3:45pm - 4:00pm | HF Digital Communications Trends                             |
| 4:00pm - 4:30pm | APRS<br>Bob Bruninga, WB4APR                                 |
| 4:30pm - 5:30pm | TAPR APRS SIG<br>Keith Sproul, WU2Z                          |

#### PACK\*BASH T95 - Friday Evening

-----  
A new event for the digitally-inclined ham, featuring:

- \* Buffet dinner (with cash bar)
- \* Nationally-known speakers holding forth on current topics:
  - \* Bob Bruninga, WB4APR (Author of APRS)
  - \* Dewayne Hendricks, WA8DZP
- \* Prize raffle
- \* Lots of Informal Discussion
- \* TAPR NET SIG and a second APRS SIG meeting

#### When?

Friday evening, April 28, 1995  
Dinner starts at 7:00 PM, speaker at 7:45 PM  
Everyone is invited to attend, but dinner is only available to those with reservations.

#### Where?

TJ's Restaurant, 2462 Dryden Road, Dayton  
(Dryden Road exit, I75 -- across from the Holiday Inn)  
(Maps available at the TAPR booth)

#### How?

Dinner requires advance registration (by April 24th)  
Come by the TAPR booth at Dayton to check on additional space.  
Everyone is invited to come, but dinner is only available to those with reservations.  
Dinner cost is \$16.00 per person, tax and tip included.

#### To register, contact:

TAPR (tapr@tapr.org)  
Phone: (817) 383-0000, Fax: (817) 566-2544

#### Who?

PACK\*BASH is co-sponsored by TAPR -- Tucson Amateur Packet Radio, the national leader in digital communication -- and the Miami Valley FM Association, Dayton's packet radio club.

(This is a replacement of the McNasty's event)

#### Saturday - BBS SIG Meeting

-----  
The TAPR BBS SIG will meet Saturday night at 7:00pm

Where: Radison Hotel - Premier Room  
The Radison is located near the intersection of I-75 and Needmore Rd. This is not far from Hara Arena.

New feature this year - CHAIRS !!!

This is a great opportunity to meet with fellow BBS Sysops and discuss current events and plans for the future. TAPR membership is not a requirement, this event is open to the public.

For more information, stop by the TAPR booth at HARA.

-----

#### 44. Dayton WX Forecast (fwd)

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Tue, 25 Apr 95 18:43:42 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: netsig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504252343.AA154619@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Here is something I found that you Dayton attendees will find enlightening. Looks like it will be chilly again this year! cu this weekend and 73 de Dave W05H

Forwarded message:

> From listmaint@AMSAT.Org Tue Apr 25 09:40:43 1995  
> From: k.baker@genie.geis.com  
> Message-Id: <199504251216.AA195422169@relay1.geis.com>  
> Date: Tue, 25 Apr 95 11:58:00 UTC  
> To: amsat-bb@amsat.org  
> Subject: Dayton WX Forecast  
> X-Genie-Id: 7213491  
> X-Genie-From: K.BAKER  
>  
> Greetings!  
>  
> For those making their way to the Hamvention, here's the latest  
> long-range weather forecast for the first two days of the event:  
>  
> Friday: Scattered showers with temperatures 45-55 F.  
>  
> Saturday: Variably cloudy with temperatures 37-56 F.  
>  
>  
> Looks like umbrella and jacket weather again this year. I'll send along the  
> forecast for Sunday as soon as it is known.  
>  
>  
> 73,  
>  
>  
> Keith/KB1SF  
>

---

#### 45. More Dayton WX Forecast (fwd)

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Wed, 26 Apr 95 19:49:56 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: netsig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504270049.AA173918@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From listmaint@AMSAT.Org Wed Apr 26 10:38:29 1995  
>From: k.baker@genie.geis.com  
>Message-Id: <199504261123.AA063385396@relay1.geis.com>  
>Date: Wed, 26 Apr 95 11:02:00 UTC  
>To: amsat-bb@amsat.org  
>Subject: More Dayton WX Forecast  
>X-Genie-Id: 9743626  
>X-Genie-From: K.BAKER

Greetings!

As promised, here's the latest updated weather forecast for the Dayton Hamvention:

Friday: Showers. Temperatures 37-55 Degrees F

Saturday: Partly Cloudy. Temperatures 36-56 Degrees F

Sunday: Variably Cloudy. Temperatures 44-61 Degrees F

Still looking like "bring your umbrella and/or jacket weather".

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the Hamvention AMSAT booth. Don't forget to sign up at the booth Friday for the Friday evening AMSATdinner at the Stockyards Inn!

73,

Keith/KB1SF

---

## 46. FINAL Dayton WX Forecast (fwd)

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Thu, 27 Apr 95 18:08:35 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9504272308.AA190918@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:  
>From listmaint@AMSAT.Org Thu Apr 27 07:11:43 1995  
From: k.baker@genie.geis.com  
Message-Id: <199504270916.AA137974211@relay1.geis.com>  
Date: Thu, 27 Apr 95 09:04:00 UTC  
To: amsat-bb@amsat.org  
Subject: FINAL Dayton WX Forecast  
X-Genie-Id: 4560605  
X-Genie-From: K.BAKER

Greetings again, all!

It's now looking like the "umbrella and jacket" forecast I've been giving you for the 1995 Dayton Hamvention is still correct, except the day forecast for rain has now changed from Friday to Sunday.

Friday: Mostly sunny. Temperatures 38-60 Degrees F.

Saturday: Variably cloudy. Temperatures 36-64 Degrees F.

Sunday: Rain. Temperatures 45-55 Degrees F.

For those of you not attending Dayton, I apologize for the bandwidth on this. However, several of our AMSAT people have found these reports quite useful in past years, particularly those who are driving to Dayton. Those people must often quickly decide on the "best" one or two day(s) to attend the event.

Remember, beginning in 1996, the Dayton Hamvention dates will shift into May. The 1996 dates are May 17,18 and 19. We also understand the local Weather Service has been advised of this change so as to also shift Dayton's famed "monsoon season" from late April to mid-May!

73,

Keith/KB1SF

---

## 47. F6CNB/W5's Server?

From: Brian Ellse <briane@iaccess.za>  
Date: Sat, 29 Apr 1995 07:06:55 +0000  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9504282145.E15853-0100000@goofy.iaccess.za>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi, I need some advice on a problem that I continually experience in reaching F6CNB's server for Packet/Internet forwarding. I include a copy of the traceroute as it stands at the moment traceroute to 44.76.5.138 (44.76.5.138), 30 hops max, 40 byte packets

```
1  zaphod.cstat.co.za (192.96.88.98)  2327 ms  5 ms  5 ms
2  rtr2.Newlands.IAFRICA.NET (196.7.17.1)  80 ms  259 ms  155 ms
3  Vienna2.VA.ALTER.NET (137.39.154.133)  722 ms  854 ms  3112 ms
4  Vienna1.VA.ALTER.NET (137.39.11.1)  1265 ms  1232 ms  1407 ms
5  San-Jose3.CA.ALTER.NET (137.39.12.2)  2726 ms  3367 ms  1545 ms
6  ucop-sf-ds3-smads.cerf.net (134.24.9.112)  1126 ms  1545 ms  3483 ms
7  sdsc-ucop.cerf.net (134.24.52.100)  1398 ms  1188 ms  2728 ms
8  longboard.cerf.net (198.17.46.152)  1513 ms  1469 ms  3584 ms
9  * * *
10 mirrorshades.ucsd.edu (128.54.16.18)  1063 ms  1629 ms  3368 ms
```



FTP site to get @WW buls ona regular basis until Remi's JNOSproblem is sorted out. I have tried FTP.TMN.COM, but only seem to find ALLUS and USBBS bulletins. I find them of interest, but some of the sysops in ZAF are funny about circulating bulletins "outside their target area".

If anyone is willing to drop @WW bulletins on the FTP.TMN.COM site for me, or can suggest another site that might carry @WW stuff, I would be extremely grateful. Zipped files of Bulletins can also be e-mailed to me, my sysadmin has no objection to e-mail size could possibly upset intermediate links hihi.

73 de Brian (desperate!!)

---

## 50. JNOS & AXIP/ENCAP Routing

From: sysop@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)  
Date: Mon, 1 May 1995 03:18:00 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <950430202708421@phx-az.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

I am looking for someone that has experience with the 1.10 versions of JNOS and AXIP/ENCAP routing. I am in the process in putting the system up on the air and could use some steering on the proper setup of it. It's been a time since our gateway was alive and needless to say I didn't save any of the old settings. Argh!

Thanks, please e-mail me directly rather than take up the group.

Dan

----- \-----/ -----  
Arizona Network Intertie Group  
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP | Voice: +1-602-912-5671 |
| P.O. Box 45378             | Fax : +1-602-912-0426  |
| Phoenix, Arizona           | BBS : +1-602-912-0225  |
| 85064-5378                 |                        |

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com  
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

---  
\* OLXWin 1.00 \* MSI - Connecting The World (tm)

---

# May 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9505

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9505](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9505)

## 1. Re: [BBSSIG:921] F6CNB/W5's Server?

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 7 May 1995 06:56:11 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950507065124.25628A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 29 Apr 1995, Brian Ellse wrote:

>  
> Hi, I need some advice on a problem that I continually experience in  
> reaching F6CNB's server for Packet/Internet forwarding. I include a copy  
> of the traceroute as it stands at the moment traceroute to 44.76.5.138  
> (44.76.5.138), 30 hops max, 40 byte packets

Godd and bad news Brian. 44.76.5.138 is back up but still very slow service. I don't know what the problem is but Remi is back home so expect all things will be put right...he answered my mail.

73, de karl k5di

---

## 2. FBB and diode matrix

From: aelt@oz.plymouth.edu (Dr. Peter G. Drexel)  
Date: Mon, 8 May 1995 21:02:06 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505090102.AA13520@oz.plymouth.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

We're having problems getting a computer with F6FBB and G8BPQ software to communicate to other nodes on a diode matrix. When attached to the matrix, the other nodes "hang". Moreover, the FBB/BPQ computer runs for a short time and then QEMM reports a "system error". The FBB/BPQ machine will run for an indefinite amount of time if not connected to the matrix.

Can anyone offer suggestions as what's happening?

73...  
Peter, AE1T

--  
Peter Drexel |  
Department of Computer Science | aelt @ oz.plymouth.edu (Internet)  
Plymouth State College | aelt @ aelt.nh.usa.noam (Packet)  
Plymouth, NH 03264 |

---

## 3. Re: [BBSSIG:926] FBB and diode matrix

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 8 May 1995 19:39:26 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950508193248.18069A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 8 May 1995, Dr. Peter G. Drexel wrote:

> We're having problems getting a computer with F6FBB and G8BPQ software  
> to communicate to other nodes on a diode matrix. When attached to the  
> matrix, the other nodes "hang". Moreover, the FBB/BPQ computer runs  
> for a short time and then QEMM reports a "system error". The FBB/BPQ  
> machine will run for an indefinite amount of time if not connected to  
> the matrix.  
>  
> Can anyone offer suggestions as what's happening?  
>  
> 73...  
> Peter, AE1T  
>  
> --  
> Peter Drexel |  
> Department of Computer Science | aelt @ oz.plymouth.edu (Internet)  
> Plymouth State College | aelt @ aelt.nh.usa.noam (Packet)  
> Plymouth, NH 03264 |  
>

Hi Peter, as I am writing the definitive paper on the Wonderful BPQ Switch and you are doing things the hard and slow way. The best way to do your task is to use the polled KISS e-proms that come with the switch and is called BPQKISS. You need to read about this in port.doc and then set each e-prom to be a,b,c...n and set up the bpq control file as shown in the examples.

If you need more detail let me know.

73, de karl k5di

---

#### 4. Re: [BBSSIG:926] FBB and diode matrix

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Mon, 8 May 95 21:09:53 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505090209.AA194207@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Peter:

Which version of BPQ are you using? If memory serves me correctly, ver 4.08 and later included a change to the circuit b00.

73 de Dave W05H

---

#### 5. FBB and Diode Matrix

From: s\_frenet@oz.plymouth.edu (Sean A. Frenette)  
Date: Wed, 10 May 1995 17:44:41 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505102144.AA14561@oz.plymouth.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Recently Dr. Peter Drexel posted a message concerning problems he was having with installing the F6FBB software using a diode matrix. I am a student working with him on the project and I have some questions.

I am currently not running any memory manager. I am running BPQ 4.08 and F6FBB 5.15. When I try to fire up the F6FBB software, it runs for a little while, but then either a bunch of "garbage" starts flooding the screen or it completely freezes up. However, if I run it in test mode it runs fine.

Anyone have any suggestions?

Sean Frenette, Plymouth State College, Plymouth, NH

---

#### 6. Re: [BBSSIG:929] FBB and Diode Matrix

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 10 May 1995 16:23:17 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950510162035.854A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 10 May 1995, Sean A. Frenette wrote:

> Recently Dr. Peter Drexel posted a message concerning problems he was  
> having with installing the F6FBB software using a diode matrix. I am a  
> student working with him on the project and I have some questions.  
>  
> I am currently not running any memory manager. I am running BPQ 4.08 and  
> F6FBB 5.15. When I try to fire up the F6FBB software, it runs for a  
> little while, but then either a bunch of "garbage" starts flooding the  
> screen or it completely freezes up. However, if I run it in test mode it  
> runs fine.  
>  
> Anyone have any suggestions?

Yes Sean, you need to read the sections in the manual for FBB that talk to getting your port.sys file properly done. I can if you need it send you my working version, but all I did was read what I am recommending. Good luck!

>  
>

> Sean Frenette, Plymouth State College, Plymouth, NH



>  
>  
73, de karl k5di

---

## 7. 9600 mods Moxy Maxar

From: Tony Heinsohn <dh9888@dfwma.sbc.com>  
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 09:21:00 -0500  
Message-ID: <199505151421.JAA169315@dfwma.sbc.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am looking for a proven & tested 9600 baud mod on UHF Motorola radios Moxy & Maxar.  
Thanks Tony

---

## 8. Re: [BBSSIG:931] 9600 mods Moxy Maxar

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 10:23:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505151523.KAA03575@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Tony,  
We have used a large number of these UHF radios locally. I can't tell you exactly the details of the mod, but we added a single transistor between the external 9600 modem and the tx osc. Also, I believe the trace between the tx audio and the modulator was cut.

I suggest you spend a couple of \$ and call our local expert, K0VM Al Groff. He can be reached via email as al@ia.net and I believe he gets the netsig output as well.

If you have problems contacting him, write me directly.

73 Barry  
>  
> I am looking for a proven & tested 9600 baud mod on UHF Motorola  
> radios Moxy & Maxar.  
> Thanks Tony  
>

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 9. Hey! a young Sysop!

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 01:38:01 -0600 (MDT)  
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950517012551.17482A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Been my experiance that most pbbs sysop's are my age...old. It seems in fact that that Ham Radio itself may have just a few years to live given the ages of those we elect to ARRL positions.

But I have a forward partner kc5izt in Albuquerque who I pictured as a retired somebody who enjoys computers and got a No-Code license. Well I was trying Brian@lantz.com callbook server and looked up kc5izt and was shocked to see Kendall was born in 1978!

By the way, to use Brian's server is to do this:

telnet lantz.com 7373

Like magic your connected directly to the callbook server. First time I have ever seen such a telnet thing however.

73 de karl k5di

---

## 10. Re: [BBSSIG:933] Hey! a young Sysop!

From: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu (Bill Barnes - N3JIX)  
Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 08:22:11 -0400  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505171222.AA08712@planetx>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Been my experiance that most pbbs sysop's are my age...old. It  
>seems in fact that that Ham Radio itself may have just a few years to  
>live given the ages of those we elect to ARRL positions.

This is partially true. The reason maybe because most my age don't have  
homes or long term places to live. I am the youngest sysop in my area...

>Well I was trying Brian@lantz.com callbook server and looked up kc5izt  
>and was shocked to see Kendall was born in 1978!

Ok, He's alot younger than I... Still neat though...

> By the way, to use Brian's server is to do this:  
> telnet lantz.com 7373

Thanks for the info...

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg Unviersity \*  
\* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

## 11. [BBSSIG:933] Hey! a young

From: djm@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)  
Date: Sun, 21 May 1995 22:23:00 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <950521160530433@phx-az.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

K>From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
K>To: bbssig@tapr.org  
K>Date: Wed, 17 May 1995 02:47:23 -0500  
K>Subject: [BBSSIG:933] Hey! a young Sysop!

K> Been my experiance that most pbbs sysop's are my age...old. It  
K>seems in fact that that Ham Radio itself may have just a few years to  
K>live given the ages of those we elect to ARRL positions.

K> But I have a forward partner kc5izt in Albuquerque who I pictured  
K>as a retired somebody who enjoys computers and got a No-Code license.  
K>Well I was trying Brian@lantz.com callbook server and looked up kc5izt  
K>and was shocked to see Kendall was born in 1978!

K> By the way, to use Brian's server is to do this:

K> telnet lantz.com 7373

K>Like magic your connected directly to the callbook server. First time I  
K>have ever seen such a telnet thing however.

K>73 de karl k5di

Hi Karl,

Actually there are quite a few of us young pups running systems  
these days. As you know, I started out when I was 16, now I'm 22 and  
I still enjoy it to a degree.

All The best...

Dan

----- \-----/ -----  
Arizona Network Intertie Group  
"Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP | Voice: +1-602-912-5671 |
| P.O. Box 45378             | Fax : +1-602-912-0426  |
| Phoenix, Arizona           | BBS : +1-602-912-0225  |
| 85064-5378                 |                        |

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com  
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

---  
\* OLXWin 1.00 \* Hello, I am part number ||#|||#||#||#||

## 12. HF Digital Communications in the Amateur Service

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Mon, 22 May 1995 16:19:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)  
Message-ID: <199505222119.QAA14773@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Greg Jones:  
>From tapr-bb@tapr.org Mon May 22 14:52:33 1995  
Date: Mon, 22 May 1995 14:39:29 -0500  
Message-Id: <199505221828.NAA24478@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>  
Reply-To: tapr-bb@tapr.org  
Originator: tapr-bb@tapr.org  
Sender: tapr-bb@tapr.org  
Precedence: bulk  
From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
To: tapr-bb@tapr.org  
Subject: [TAPR-BB:87] HF Digital Communications in the Amateur Service  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Announcements  
Content-Length: 10197  
Content-Type: text  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL23]

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D. C. 20554

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| In the Matter of                 | ) PR Docket No. 94-59 |
|                                  | )                     |
| Amendment of Part 97 of the      | ) RM-8218             |
| Commission's Rules Concerning    | ) RM-8280             |
| HF Digital Communications in the | )                     |
| Amateur Service.                 | )                     |

### REPORT AND ORDER

Adopted: April 17, 1995                      Released: April 27, 1995

By the Commission:

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. On June 13, 1994, we adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in the above-captioned proceeding. In the Notice, we proposed to authorize automatic control of stations transmitting digital emission types on the High Frequency (HF) amateur service bands, subject to two conditions for such operation. The automatically controlled station must either be connected to another station that is under manual control, or the automatically controlled station must transmit within a subband designated for this purpose. In this Report and Order, we adopt the proposed rules.

### II. DISCUSSION

2. In response to the Notice, we received nineteen comments and one reply comment. The comments ranged from recommending that automatic control not be authorized under any condition to recommending that automatic control be authorized unconditionally. They confirmed generally that the amateur service has a need for stations to transmit digital emission types on the HF bands while under automatic control. The comments also established that there is concern that such transmissions could cause interference to other communications. The comments, however, generally agree that the conditions proposed will provide the necessary degree of protection against

such interference. They indicated, moreover, that the desired communications can be carried out under the conditions proposed.

3. Except for temporary authority we issued to permit a feasibility study directed by The American Radio Relay League, Inc. (ARRL), automatic control has not been authorized on the HF bands. Heretofore we have considered immediate action by the station control operator as necessary to avoid causing interference to the communications of other amateur stations transmitting on an HF band. A station transmitting on an HF band usually demands greater attention by its control operator than does a station transmitting on Very-High Frequency (VHF) and higher frequency bands because HF radio wave propagation is long range and changes often. The comments, however, indicated that such operation is practical on the HF bands when the automatically controlled station is simply responding to interrogation by a station having the control operator at its control point or when the station is transmitting on a channel located within a small subband designated for that purpose.

4. The ARRL supports the proposal. It states that absent consensus in the comments, we should take the compromise approach reflected in the rules as proposed. It contends that authorization of automatic control will result in greater flexibility in experimentation and development of digital communications as well as facilitate adaption of existing digital technologies to practical use. In another comment that strongly supported automatic control, however, Colby states that establishing and maintaining communications on a shared HF channel is no different than it is on a shared VHF channel, and opposes any conditions on automatically controlled amateur stations beyond those now required in the VHF bands. The ARRL argues that additional conditions proposed are necessary because any automatically controlled station transmitting in a crowded shared HF band involves a substantially increased risk of interference. Other comments also express concern with an increased risk of interference. Further, they oppose the establishment of subbands as a solution to the interference concern because subbands would significantly reduce the available spectrum for stations transmitting other emission types.

5. Automatic control of stations transmitting digital emission types enables amateur operators to utilize high-speed computer-based message technology for the rapid and accurate relaying of messages and data. For this reason, we conclude that there has been demonstrated a need for stations in the amateur service to transmit on the HF bands under automatic control. Such operation will result in greater flexibility in experimentation and development of digital communications.

6. We do recognize the concerns of those who oppose the proposal on the basis of potential interference, and in response to these concerns we are limiting when automatic control can be employed. First, the control operator of the station that is connected to the automatically controlled station must prevent the automatically controlled station from causing interference. Second, we are designating subbands to which transmissions between two automatically controlled stations are confined. These subbands are a small portion of the spectrum otherwise available for digital emission types. We also are confident in the ability of the amateur service community to respond, as it has in the past, to the challenge of minimizing interference with novel technical and operational approaches to the use of shared frequency bands.

7. Requiring automatically controlled stations to transmit only in the designated subbands when communicating with another automatically controlled station, furthermore, will not reduce the HF spectrum available for other emission types. The bandwidth of the transmissions of an automatically controlled station will occupy no more than 500 Hz, and the subbands represent only 3.8 percent of the HF spectrum authorized to the amateur service. Other than Morse telegraphy, only digital emission types are currently authorized for the specified subbands. Nothing in the rules that we are adopting prohibits other stations from continuing to share these subbands.

### III. CONCLUSION

8. In summary, we are amending the amateur service rules to authorize automatic control of amateur stations. To lessen the possibility of inadvertent interference, the automatically controlled station either must be connected to another station that is under manual control, or the automatically controlled station must transmit only within a subband designated for communications between automatically controlled stations. We believe these rule changes will allow the amateur service community to contribute to communication technology and to advance its communication and technical skills consistent with Section 97.1 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. 97.1. We see this action as fundamental to our commitment to provide maximum flexibility to the amateur service community. Therefore, we will amend the amateur service rules as set forth in the attached Appendix.

#### IV. ORDERING CLAUSES

9. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that effective July 1, 1995, Part 97 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. Part 97, IS AMENDED as set forth in the Appendix hereto. Authority for this action is found in Section 4(i) and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154(i) and 303(r).

10. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this proceeding IS TERMINATED.

11. For further information, contact William T. Cross of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Private Wireless Division, (202) 418-0680.

#### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

William F. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
APPENDIX

Part 97 of Chapter I of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

#### Part 97 - Amateur Radio Service

1. The authority citation for Part 97 continues to read as follows:

Authority citation: 48 Stat. 1066, 1082, as amended; 47 U.S.C. 154, 303. Interpret or apply 48 Stat. 1064-1068, 1081-1105, as amended; 47 U.S.C. 151-155, 301-609, unless otherwise noted.

2. Section 97.109 is amended by revising paragraphs (d) and (e) to read as follows:

97.109 Station control.

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) When a station is being automatically controlled, the control operator need not be at the control point. Only stations specifically designated elsewhere in this Part may be automatically controlled. Automatic control must cease upon notification by an EIC that the station is transmitting improperly or causing harmful interference to other stations. Automatic control must not be resumed without prior approval of the EIC.

(e) No station may be automatically controlled while transmitting third party communications, except a station transmitting a RTTY or data emission. All messages that are retransmitted must originate at a station that is being locally or remotely controlled.

3. A new Section 97.221 is added to Subpart C To read as follows:

97.221 Automatically controlled digital station.

(a) This rule section does not apply to an auxiliary station, a beacon station, a repeater station, an earth station, a space station, or a space telecommand station.

(b) A station may be automatically controlled while transmitting a RTTY or data emission on the 6 m or shorter wavelength bands, and on the 28.120-28.189 MHz, 24.925-24.930 MHz, 21.090-21.100 MHz, 18.105-18.110 MHz, 14.0950-14.0995 MHz, 14.1005-14.112 MHz, 10.140-10.150 MHz, 7.100-7.105 MHz, or 3.620-3.635 MHz segments.

(c) A station may be automatically controlled while transmitting a RTTY or data emission on any other frequency authorized for such emission types provided that:

(1) The station is responding to interrogation by a station under local or remote control; and

(2) No transmission from the automatically controlled station occupies a bandwidth of more than 500 Hz.

---

### 13. improvements to KISS ?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 23 May 1995 18:18:44 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505232318.SAA18415@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

May 23, 1995

At the BBSSIG in Dayton, we had a good discussion of some technical areas which have problems or could use improvement.

One topic which drew some discussion was the KISS program. This is one of those little programs that we all take for granted. It just runs and on first glance, it seems to be perfect. KISS was written to provide a minimal interface for the TNC-2. It allows computers to send and receive packets without a human interface: no prompts, text responses, etc.

One of the design choices when the current KISS was written was the mechanism for returning from KISS to normal mode. This consists of a short sequence which requires the user to send some binary data to the TNC. For some operators, this can be confusing.

I don't mean for that trivial example to be the basis for criticizing KISS. It is, however, representative of why KISS has not migrated into the area of individual users.

"IF" there were to be an effort to improve KISS, what features should be included?

Should KISS do more of the work on TX?

Consider that the program should support more than just BBS. It may be used for terminal programs, satellite servers, etc.

73 Barry  
--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

### 14. Re: [BBSSIG:936] HF Digital Communications in the Amateur Service

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Date: Tue, 23 May 1995 16:41:31 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505232342.SAA21187@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

SNIP!

>

> (2) No transmission from the automatically controlled  
> station occupies a bandwidth of more than 500 Hz.

>

Have we shot ourselves in the foot here? If I have been following the comments about the HF FEC protocol exploration correctly, the resulting bandwidth may be MORE than 500 Hz!

## 15. Re: [BBSSIG:938] Re: HF Digital Communications in the Amateur Service

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
 Date: Tue, 23 May 1995 21:22:06 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199505240222.VAA11867@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Jack - If I read it correctly (and gosh I could really be wrong) the 500 Hz is in regards to semi-automatic stations. That does not limit amateurs who want to use other types of transmissions in a normal amateur to amateur mode.

Anyway, ADRS (Amateur Digital Radio Society) is a big pusher of the 500Hz for all HF digital modes....

Maybe someone else can interpt it another way :-)

Cheers - Greg

According to Jack Taylor:

```
>
>
>                                     SNIP!
> >
> > (2) No transmission from the automatically controlled
> > station occupies a bandwidth of more than 500 Hz.
> >
> Have we shot ourselves in the foot here? If I have been following the
> comments about the HF FEC protocol exploration correctly, the resulting
> bandwidth may be MORE than 500 Hz!
>
> 73 de Jack
>
>
```

## 16. Re: [BBSSIG:939] Re: HF Digital Communications in the Amateur Service

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
 Date: Tue, 23 May 1995 19:47:54 -0700  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199505240248.VAA22432@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

```
>
> Jack - If I read it correctly (and gosh I could really be wrong) the 500 Hz
> is in regards to semi-automatic stations. That does not limit amateurs who
> want to use other types of transmissions in a normal amateur to amateur
> mode.
```

```
>
> Anyway, ADRS (Amateur Digital Radio Society) is a big pusher of the 500Hz
> for all HF digital modes....
```

```
>
> Maybe someone else can interpt it another way :-)
```

```
>
> Cheers - Greg
```

```
>
> Yes, the 500 Hz limitation ruling applies to automatic/semi-automatic
> stations...and I'd think these are the ones who would most benefit from a
> yet to be decided HF FEC protocol which allows improved throughput. Guess
> that bridge will be crossed when and if the time comes.
```

73 de Jack

```
> According to Jack Taylor:
```

```
>>
>>
>>                                     SNIP!
>> >
>> > (2) No transmission from the automatically controlled
>> > station occupies a bandwidth of more than 500 Hz.
>> >
>> Have we shot ourselves in the foot here? If I have been following the
>> comments about the HF FEC protocol exploration correctly, the resulting
>> bandwidth may be MORE than 500 Hz!
>>
>> 73 de Jack
>>
>>
```

## 17. Re: [BBSSIG:940] Re: HF Digital Communications in the Amateur Service

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Tue, 23 May 1995 22:58:53 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505240358.WAA21255@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Yes - another STA when the HF SIG does there thing :-)

Greg

According to Jack Taylor:

>  
> >  
> > Jack - If I read it correctly (and gosh I could really be wrong) the 500 Hz  
> > is in regards to semi-automatic stations. That does not limit amateurs who  
> > want to use other types of transmissions in a normal amateur to amateur  
> > mode.  
> >  
> > Anyway, ADRS (Amateur Digital Radio Society) is a big pusher of the 500Hz  
> > for all HF digital modes....  
> >  
> > Maybe someone else can interpt it another way :-)  
> >  
> > Cheers - Greg  
> >  
> Yes, the 500 Hz limitation ruling applies to automatic/semi-automatic  
> stations...and I'd think these are the ones who would most benefit from a  
> yet to be decided HF FEC protocol which allows improved throughput. Guess  
> that bridge will be crossed when and if the time comes.  
>  
> 73 de Jack  
>  
> > According to Jack Taylor:  
> >>  
> >> SNIP!  
> >> >  
> >> > (2) No transmission from the automatically controlled  
> >> > station occupies a bandwidth of more than 500 Hz.  
> >> >  
> >> Have we shot ourselves in the foot here? If I have been following the  
> >> comments about the HF FEC protocol exploration correctly, the resulting  
> >> bandwidth may be MORE than 500 Hz!  
> >>  
> >> 73 de Jack  
> >>  
> >>  
>  
>  
>

---

## 18. FTP Site

From: ac191@detroit.freenet.org (James Haight)  
Date: Wed, 24 May 1995 06:12:41 -0400  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505241012.GAA26011@detroit.freenet.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am looking for a couple of addresses of some sites that I can ftp zipped  
bulletins from? At present I am getting some bulletins from an address of  
ftp.tmn.com... Thanks for any help you can give...

--

Jim Haight - WW8Q  
ac191@detroit.freenet.org  
ww8q.ampr.org [44.102.182.16]

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## 19. Re: [BBSSIG:942] FTP Site

From: "Brian Ellse" <H14763@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za>  
Date: Wed, 24 May 1995 12:29:23 GMT+2  
To: ac191@detroit.freenet.org (James Haight), bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <3432AF946D6@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

An excellent site for @WW @ARL and @AMSAT bulletins as well as @USA  
is run by Remi F6CNB.



ftp to : 44.76.5.138  
enter id : ftpfwd (not anonymous!!)  
passwd: your callsign (or anything actually)

"dir " will show you what directories there are. This is an MSDOS system, not UNIX. The daily files are automatically placed here at about 08h30 UTC daily and have the format <to-field><day of year>.zip. i.e ww144.zip is the @WW files for day 144.

Hope this helps.

---

## 20. Re: [BBSSIG:938] Re: HF Digital Communications in the Amateur Service

From: gwyn@paccomm.com (Gwyn Reedy, WIBEL)  
Date: Wed, 24 May 95 06:56:09 UTC  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <4127@paccomm.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

re: Jack Taylor, "...HF FEC... the resulting bandwidth may be MORE than 500 Hz!"  
The only commercially available amateur radio unit which uses convolutional encoding is the PACTOR-II by S.C.S. in Germany (manufactured by PacComm in US).

Their (unverified by me) specifications are for a 16aryDPSK signal with raw bit rates of 750 or 800 bps (I forgot which) in a 450 Hz channel. Code uses a soft decision Viterbi decoder. Several levels of data compression are also available; the most efficient selected automatically.

I don't mean to advertise here, but it takes a long time for folks to become aware of what already exists if they aren't part of the sub-universe where that is a hot item of discussion. Contact me directly if you wish more information.

Gwyn Reedy, WIBEL gwyn@paccomm.com WIBEL@amsat.org

+(813) 874-2980 Fax:+(813) 872-8696 BBS: +(813) 874-3078 (V.34)

PacComm Packet Radio Systems, Inc, 4413 N. Hesperides St, Tampa, FL 33614-7618

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## 21. Baycom style modems with BBS?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 24 May 1995 11:59:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505241659.LAA23473@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

A month ago, someone was looking for information on using Baycom style modems with a BBS program. I've had an inquiry from a ham in Russia that is interested in such an installation.

To be perfectly clear, let me state the elements of the station:  
radio <-> modem <-> pc port[driver] <-> BPQ <-> BBS program.

It seems that this would tie up the PC with the bit banging serial I/O, but for one port and few users, that might be ok.

Has anyone \_really\_ made this (or similar) work effectively?

Thanks,  
Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 22. 28Mhz Transverters

From: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>  
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 15:50:45 +0100 (BST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950525154942.299C-100000@dirku.demon.co.uk>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Microwave modules no longer produce 28Mhz transverters, however they have passed their existing stock and manufacturing rights to another company

which is run by a radio amateur.

Unfortunately he has not got internet access, but initial enquiries can be directed thru me at the address given below.

He has, in some cases substantial, stocks of the following transverters:-

28->70Mhz  
28->144Mhz  
28->220Mhz  
28->432-436Mhz  
28->432->434, 435-437Mhz

In addition he can recrystal the 220Mhz parts to 219Mhz to order. These are all priced @ STG 160 (approx \$250) (any model). All are 10W output.

These are all boxed original equipment (ie not second hand). If he should run out of any model he has the rights and capability to manufacture more units.

The manufacturer has designed a 6m transverter (of higher quality, all surface mount etc etc, really designed for the DX market) priced at STG 250 (approx \$390) again 10W output.

He also has the complete range of linears, of which relevant ones might be:-

10->50W 432Mhz STG 170 (approx \$270)  
10->100W 432Mhz STG 340 (approx \$535)  
10->80W 220Mhz STG 180 (approx \$285)  
10->100W 144Mhz STG 180     "  
10->100W 50Mhz STG 180     "

Other bands/power levels are available

Carriage would be extra at cost.

I will anybody interested in touch direct (ie he will sell to you direct, I am only the internet information gateway).

--

Dirk-Jan Koopman       Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806  
Computer Consultant   Email: djkd@dirku.demon.co.uk or G1TLH@GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU  
"The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is no more annoying than the piano when played by a sister or near relation." --Oscar Wilde

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## 23. Re: Baycom style modems with BBS?

From: ferracci@ialup.francenet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 21:30:09 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505251930.VAA15993@chleuasme.francenet.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>To be perfectly clear, let me state the elements of the station:  
>radio <-> modem <-> pc port[driver] <-> BPQ <-> BBS program.  
>Has anyone \_really\_ made this (or similar) work effectively?

Hi,

We run two ports on the BBS here:  
-WA8DED TNC  
-1200Bps Baycom

We do not run BPQ. So the elements are:  
Radio - Baycom modem - TFPCX - FBB BBS program

It's running fine !

From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ

Fidonet 2:323/22.1

F1JKJ@Amsat.org

Compuserve

ID 100407,436

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## 24. Re: [BBSSIG:937] improvements to KISS ?

From: ferracci@dialup.francenet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Thu, 25 May 1995 21:30:22 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505251930.VAA15999@chleuasme.francenet.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>"IF" there were to be an effort to improve KISS, what features should  
>be included?

There has been some efforts recently.  
Some things have changed to minimize errors between TNC and P.C. but  
terminal programs don't use these new things for the moment.

I haven't heard about "kiss-reset" changes...

From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ

F1JKJ@Amsat.org

Fidonet 2:323/22.1

Compuserve

ID 100407,436

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## 25. Re: [BBSSIG:947] Re: Baycom style modems with BBS?

From: gwyn@paccomm.com (Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL)  
Date: Thu, 25 May 95 18:07:01 UTC  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <4203@paccomm.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Now that 9600 (parallel port) baycom modems are in production, I hope  
the TFPCX driver supports (will someday support) this new device.

-----  
Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL      gwyn@paccomm.com      W1BEL@amsat.org

+(813) 874-2980      Fax: +(813) 872-8696      BBS: +(813) 874-3078 (V.34)

PacComm Packet Radio Systems, Inc, 4413 N. Hesperides St, Tampa, FL 33614-7618

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## 26. Re: FTP Site

From: roberte@interlink.no (Robert Eliassen)  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 02:21:15 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505260021.AC02151@henry>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Jim,

>I am looking for a couple of addresses of some sites that I can ftp zipped  
>bulletins from? At present I am getting some bulletins from an address of  
>ftp.tmn.com... Thanks for any help you can give...

I'm running a FBB mailbox in Norway, and I'm also looking for a ftp site  
with zipped bulletins.

73 de Bob.

E-mail: roberte@interlink.no  
or: la6gha@amsat.org  
AX.25 (US): LA6GHA@N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
(NO): LA6GHA@LA6GHA.NAM.V.NOR.EU  
Fido: 2:211/7.10@fidonet.org

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## 27. Re: [BBSSIG:943] Re: FTP Site

From: roberte@interlink.no (Robert Eliassen)  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 02:58:33 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505260058.AA03333@henry>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>An excellent site for @WW @ARL and @AMSAT bulletins as well as @USA  
>is run by Remi F6CNB.

Well... Excellent - probably... But really slow. What kind of connection  
is this? Packet radio 1200bd? (no offence)

73 de Bob.

E-mail: roberte@interlink.no  
or: la6gha@amsat.org



### 30. Re: [BBSSIG:947] Re: Baycom style modems with BBS?

From: "Brian Ellse - ZR5DTS" <H14763@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 07:59:22 GMT+2  
To: ferracci@dialup.francenet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ), bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <36EAC46256D@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Laurent Ferracci wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> We run two ports on the BBS here:  
> -WA8DED TNC  
> -1200Bps Baycom  
>  
> We do not run BPQ. So the elements are:  
> Radio - Baycom modem - TFPCX - FBB BBS program  
>  
> It's running fine !  
>  
>  
>  
F1JKJ@Amsat.org  
> From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ  
> Fidonet 2:323/22.1  
>

I am interested in finding out how to run F6FBB with two baycoms and TFPCX. The TFPCX loads ok, but FBB does the DED host thing and then the wheels fall off. Has anybody managed to get two Baycoms running on two ports with F6FBB at the same time? If so, please tell me how ;-)

Best Regards

Brian Ellse  
h14763@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za Tel: \*\*27-31-7105499 Work (6-14h UTC)  
briane@goofy.iaccess.za Tel: \*\*27-31-861581 Home  
briane@iafrica.com Packet: zr5dts@zs0wte.kzn.zaf.af

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### 31. (Fwd) Jonathans Space Report in Pkt format

From: "Brian Ellse - ZR5DTS" <H14763@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 09:31:23 GMT+2  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <37034E03EBD@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

I am considering setting up a redistribution list to allow Sysops of Packet Radio (and all digital MB0's) to receive the "Jonathans Space Report" in a packet ready format.

I have been in touch with Jonathan McDowell, the author of the document have his permission to do so. My reasons for wanting to set up the distribution list are to assist sysops who don't have newsgroup access, and secondly, to introduce a BID to try and minimise the amount of duplication of this report that is taking place. I currently have 5 copies of one edition on my BBS, all obviously from well meaning users (and sysops?) each with a different BID.

My proposed format for the address and title is:

SB SPACE @ WW \$JSR(xxx)  
Jonathans Space Report #(xxx)

where (xxx) is the bulletin number provided by the author.

Please e-mail subscriptions to:  
h14763@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za  
Subject: SUBSCRIBE JSR-LIST

You will be added to list against the <return-to field> address of your e-mail note.

Best Regards

Brian Ellse

h14763@ngynfs02.eskom.co.za      Tel: \*\*27-31-7105499 Work (6-14h UTC)  
briane@goofy.iaccess.za          Tel: \*\*27-31-861581 Home  
briane@iafrica.com                Packet: zr5dts@zs0wte.kzn.zaf.af

---

### 32. Re: [BBSSIG:952] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 06:02:40 -0600 (MDT)  
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950526055251.23645F-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 26 May 1995, Jim Tittsler wrote:

> In article <Pine.SUN.3.91.950525190253.11230A-100000@acca>, you wrote:  
> > features you can want of Kiss. Alas, if you own a Kantronics tnc you can  
> > not use this superior Kiss.  
>  
> It is already implemented in the Kantronics TNCs! (G8BPQ slightly  
> modified his code to bring it into line with what was in the Kantronics  
> boxes.)

That is good! Then all your missing is the ability to run 2 or more tnc's from the same Com port....this being because you can't set them to display the tnc number.

This is a very powerful feature of the BPQ Switch. It does require that you program the e-proms with bits changed for each tnc to be used. I have done this for 3 guys and when done they were able to write the ports section of bpqcfig.txt for 3 tnc's all connected to Com 1.

73, karl

>  
> 73,  
> Jim 7J1AJH/AI8A 7j1ajh@amsat.org <URL:http://shrine.cyber.ad.jp/~jwt/>  
>

---

### 33. ftp.tmn.com

From: David Hess NK3T <DHESS@UMES.UMD.EDU>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 95 08:33:47 EDT  
To: Rick White KA3T <rwhite@cpcug.org>, Rich Casullo WZ2D <rc182649@hvcc.edu>,  
Dean Madsen <dmadsen@iastate.edu>, Andy Witts <andy@gldil.demon.co.uk>,  
"Art Verno Jr. KA3FMO" <ka3fmo@netcom.com>, bbssig@tapr.org,  
FBB list messages <f6fbb-list@Phx-Az.com>  
Message-ID: <199505261243.IAA06297@umd5.umd.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi folks,

I hope this is not a dupe, as my mailer barfed on the last message. Concerning the bulletin dump site formally known as ftp.tmn.com, the domain name has changed, and I do not know the new name. When connecting, the directory names do not show when listed, but it is still there!

Connect to 198.67.13.2, and change to the pub/WORK directory. All that is left are a few dumps from KA3T and KA3FMO. I guess we can do it by the numbers until we find the new name.

73 Dave

|                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| +-----+-----+        |                                |
| David Hess           | Packet NK3T @ NK3T.MD.USA.NOAM |
| 3735 Algonquin Trail | Internet dhess@umes.umd.edu    |
| Snow Hill, MD 21863  |                                |
| USA                  | Phone 410 632-3967             |
|                      |                                |
| +-----+-----+        |                                |

---

### 34. Windows version of FBB

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 07:26:37 -0600 (MDT)  
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950526072300.4998A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Read a message from LU8QAW Edgardo that he is seeing winFBB beta on many @WW messages down there. I looked thru my headers and don't see any with the @usa address.

Anyone out there beta testing a windows version of the f6fbb packet bbs software?

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****
```

---

### 35. Re: [BBSSIG:956] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 08:54:53 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505261556.KAA19199@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
>
> That is good! Then all your missing is the ability to run 2 or
>more tnc's from the same Com port....this being because you can't set
>them to display the tnc number.
>
> This is a very powerful feature of the BPQ Switch. It does
>require that you program the e-proms with bits changed for each tnc to be
>used. I have done this for 3 guys and when done they were able to write
>the ports section of bpqcfg.txt for 3 tnc's all connected to Com 1.
>
>73, karl
>
Ummm, what are the practical applications of having more than one TNC on a
comm port?
```

73 de Jack

---

### 36. Re: [BBSSIG:959] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 13:53:18 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950526134726.349A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 26 May 1995, Jack Taylor wrote:

```
> >
> > That is good! Then all your missing is the ability to run 2 or
> >more tnc's from the same Com port....this being because you can't set
> >them to display the tnc number.
> >
> > This is a very powerful feature of the BPQ Switch. It does
> >require that you program the e-proms with bits changed for each tnc to be
> >used. I have done this for 3 guys and when done they were able to write
> >the ports section of bpqcfg.txt for 3 tnc's all connected to Com 1.
> >
> >73, karl
> >
> Ummm, what are the practical applications of having more than one TNC on a
> comm port?
>
> 73 de Jack
>
> Say your a pbbs and as is typical you are also part of the
network. Say also, as Glenn wb7tls is, that your also have 2 HF radios
with 3 tnc's and radio's on vhf frequencies. Glenn has 5 ports with 5
radios and would need 5 irq interrupt vectors. But thanks to G8BPQ he has
just 1 com port with 5 tnc's and radios.
```

`Does that make sense Jack?

73 de karl k5di

---

### 37. Re: [BBSSIG:959] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Fri, 26 May 95 13:12:43 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505261312.ZM6015@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On May 26, 11:11am, Jack Taylor wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:959] Re: improvements to KISS ?

> >

> > That is good! Then all your missing is the ability to run 2 or  
> >more tnc's from the same Com port....this being because you can't set  
> >them to display the tnc number.

> >

> > This is a very powerful feature of the BPQ Switch. It does  
> >require that you program the e-proms with bits changed for each tnc to be  
> >used. I have done this for 3 guys and when done they were able to write  
> >the ports section of bpqcfg.txt for 3 tnc's all connected to Com 1.

> >

> >73, karl

> >

> Ummm, what are the practical applications of having more than one TNC on a  
> comm port?

Having 8 tncs on two COM ports?

Or 8 tncs on four COM ports ...

i.e. cost and availability of IRQs

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

### 38. Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 16:03:56 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <01HQYQ55LPVMQPH3UE@tntech.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

karl k5di writes about G8BPQ KISS:

> As far as experiance is concerned I have that kiss e-prom in a  
>PacComm Tiny-2 with their G3RUH 9600 baud modem and have yet, after 2  
>years of continous service sending millions of messages to El Paso, TX,  
>have yet to see an error due to Kiss!

How do you know that there have not been any errors?

What features does this version of KISS provide over the original version?

Jeff, k9ja

---

|                    |  |                                    |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Jeffrey Austen     |  | Tennessee Technological University |
| jra1854@tntech.edu |  | Box 5004                           |
| +1 615 372 3485    |  | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.  |

---

### 39. Re: [BBSSIG:960] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 19:05:09 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505270206.VAA23462@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>

>

>On Fri, 26 May 1995, Jack Taylor wrote:

>

>> >

>> > That is good! Then all your missing is the ability to run 2 or  
>> >more tnc's from the same Com port....this being because you can't set  
>> >them to display the tnc number.



```

>> >
>> > This is a very powerful feature of the BPQ Switch. It does
>> >require that you program the e-proms with bits changed for each tnc to be
>> >used. I have done this for 3 guys and when done they were able to write
>> >the ports section of bpqcfg.txt for 3 tnc's all connected to Com 1.
>> >
>> >73, karl
>> >
>> > Ummm, what are the practical applications of having more than one TNC on a
>> > comm port?
>> >
>> > 73 de Jack
>> >
>> > Say your a pbbs and as is typical you are also part of the
>> >network. Say also, as Glenn wb7t1s is, that your also have 2 HF radios
>> >with 3 tnc's and radio's on vhf frequencies. Glenn has 5 ports with 5
>> >radios and would need 5 irq interrupt vectors. But thanks to G8BPQ he has
>> >just 1 com port with 5 tnc's and radios.
>> >
>> > `Does that make sense Jack?
>> >
>> >73 de karl k5di
>> >

```

Sounds pretty good to me! Apparently this has been around for awhile and somehow I managed to miss it. I'll do some snooping on the BPQ docs for more info, thanks Karl!

73 de Jack

#### 40. [BBSSIG:959] Re: improvem

From: djm@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)  
 Date: Sat, 27 May 1995 01:32:00 GMT  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <950526200506462@phx-az.com>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

JT>From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
 JT>To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 JT>Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 11:11:22 -0500  
 JT>Subject: [BBSSIG:959] Re: improvements to KISS ?

```

JT>>
JT>> That is good! Then all your missing is the ability to run 2 or
JT>>more tnc's from the same Com port....this being because you can't set
JT>>them to display the tnc number.
JT>>
JT>> This is a very powerful feature of the BPQ Switch. It does
JT>>require that you program the e-proms with bits changed for each tnc to be
JT>>used. I have done this for 3 guys and when done they were able to write
JT>>the ports section of bpqcfg.txt for 3 tnc's all connected to Com 1.
JT>>
JT>>73, karl
JT>>
JT>>Ummm, what are the practical applications of having more than one TNC on a
JT>>comm port?

```

JT>73 de Jack

In my case Jack, having 6 radios running and using the system for Faxing and Modeming, I only have 4 com's available and limited IRQ's. So thanks to BPQKISS I run the TNC's @ 19200 Polled mode and run the 1200 baud TNC's with 1 9600 Baud TNC, I haven't noticed a bit of degredation in speed on the radio port. In my case, I have no choice If I want to use my PC fully for other functions, and for 2000 dollars, you bet I do... :-)

Dan

```

----- \-----/ -----
                Arizona Network Intertie Group
                "Serving Az's Digital Needs Since 1993"

```

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Daniel J. Meredith - N7MRP | Voice: +1-602-912-5671 |
| P.O. Box 45378             | Fax : +1-602-912-0426  |
| Phoenix, Arizona           | BBS : +1-602-912-0225  |
| 85064-5378                 |                        |

List Owner: F6fbb-List@Phx-Az.Com  
Arizona Amateur Radio VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator

---

\* OLXWin 1.00 \* --T-A+G-L-I+N-E--+M-E+A+S-U-R+I-N-G+--G-A+U-G-E--

---

#### 41. Re: [BBSSIG:963] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 23:47:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505270447.XAA23250@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

It was published in 1990 9th CNN, London, ONT

The BPQ Node in an Expanding Network, page 177  
Karl Medcalf, WKSM, and Phil Anderson, WOXI,  
in cooperation with John Wiseman, G8BPQ

Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD

-----  
President -- Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Corp  
-----

According to Jack Taylor:

>  
> Sounds pretty good to me! Apparently this has been around for awhile and  
> somehow I managed to miss it. I'll do some snooping on the BPQ docs for  
> more info, thanks Karl!  
>  
> 73 de Jack  
>  
>

---

#### 42. '95 DCC Proceedings Deadline

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Fri, 26 May 1995 23:59:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing),  
netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing), aprssig@tapr.org (APRS SIG),  
dsp-93@tapr.org (DSP-93 Build)  
Message-ID: <199505270459.XAA24090@Alice-Thurman.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

1995 ARRL Digital Communications Conference  
Proceedings Deadline Information  
-----

Anyone interested in digital communications is invited to submit a paper for publication in the 1995 Conference Proceedings. Presentation at the Conference is not required for publication. If you know of someone who is doing great things with digital communications, be sure to personally tell them about this! Papers are due by July 21, 1995, and should be submitted to Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 or via the Internet to mweinberg@arrl.org. Please contact Maty for detailed format requirements.

Deadline: July 21, 1995 (Friday)

Start writing those papers now!  
This is your opportunity to let others know what you have been doing.

---

#### 43. Re: [BBSSIG:962] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 27 May 1995 05:35:44 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950527052423.16942A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 26 May 1995, Jeffrey Austen wrote:

> karl k5di writes about G8BPQ KISS:  
> > As far as experiance is concerned I have that kiss e-prom in a  
> >PacComm Tiny-2 with their G3RUH 9600 baud modem and have yet, after 2  
> >years of continous service sending millions of messages to El Paso, TX,  
> >have yet to see an error due to Kiss!  
>

```

> How do you know that there have not been any errors?
>
> What features does this version of KISS provide over the original version?
>
> Jeff, k9ja
>
> ---
> Jeffrey Austen      | Tennessee Technological University
> jra1854@tntech.edu  | Box 5004
> +1 615 372 3485     | Cookeville Tennessee 38505   U.S.A.
>
>
>

```

Jeff, you are not a sysop that uses the improved forwarding method from F6FBB. If you were you would know that with every forward sequence a checksum is sent with the first request to send. Then if the actual data fails the checksum FBB prints ERROR in the log and stops the forward.

I know about this because I first used an "existing" kiss e-prom and got lots of errors with it. Then the NMSUGW got a kiss e-prom that was bad and that path was not useable. I gave them a bpqkiss and now millions of bytes that route without a problem.

On ftp.ucsd.edu there is a file called kiss4.img or like that. I tried that and it seems to have some data buffering. The original kiss assumed you had buffering in both the computer (NOS) and in the TNC. The latter is not the case....

-karl k5di

---

#### 44. Re: [BBSSIG:967] Re: improvements to KISS ?

```

From: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@tntech.edu>
Date: Sat, 27 May 1995 09:12:40 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <01HQZQIUN07CHXIS89@tntech.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

```

> Jeff, you are not a sysop that uses the improved forwarding
> method from F6FBB.

```

True. I run JNOS/Linux.

```

> If you were you would know that with every forward
> sequence a checksum is sent with the first request to send. Then if the
> actual data fails the checksum FBB prints ERROR in the log and stops the
> forward.

```

Nice. It sounds like that is one feature that would be good to have added to other BBS software.

Jeff, k9ja

---

#### 45. Re: [BBSSIG:968] Re: improvements to KISS ?

```

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Sat, 27 May 1995 09:10:20 -0600 (MDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950527090410.14244A-100000@acca>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

On Sat, 27 May 1995, Jeffrey Austen wrote:

```

> > Jeff, you are not a sysop that uses the improved forwarding
> > method from F6FBB.
>
> True. I run JNOS/Linux.
>
> > If you were you would know that with every forward
> > sequence a checksum is sent with the first request to send. Then if the
> > actual data fails the checksum FBB prints ERROR in the log and stops the
> > forward.
>
> Nice. It sounds like that is one feature that would be good to have added
> to other BBS software.
>
> Jeff, k9ja
>

```

Jeff I got des110i.zip from ftp.ucsd.edu and looking at the files

it will let jnos version 110i and maybe j forward with full f6fbb forwarding that includes compression (version 110h-j now forward using all but the compression part of FBB). I plan to try putting this des on j and do a compile.

Problem is version 110x will not port to linux....oh well like all good things there is always a snag.

-karl k5di

---

## 46. BPQ KISS summary

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 27 May 1995 11:31:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505271631.LAA11569@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

The following is taken from BPQ408A.ZIP, KISSPROMS.DOC. This is available from ftp.tapr.org

BPQKISS - A Multidropped KISS system. (TNC2 and clones only)

I have implemented a system to allow more than one KISS-like TNC to connect to a single Async port. This is primarily for those running machines with little expansion capability, but can also enable the TNCs and transceivers to be located remotely from the PC with a simple 3 wire link. This could be useful on the lower frequencies, where QRM from the PC blocks the receiver ( I have real problems running a 50meg RX near the PC). A simple checksum is also added to each packet, to reduce the risk of corruption if running on long leads (or even over a modem link).

The system uses polling to prevent contention on the link. Each TNC must run the BPQKISS program, and each must have a different 'address' byte patched in at location 20hex. In the PORTS section of BPQCFG.TXT, PROTOCOL must be set to KISS, KISSOPTIONS to POLLED,CHECKSUM,ACKMODE and CHANNEL set to correspond to the address in the PROM -

--

Barry Buelow        WA0RJT        Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net        wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 47. Re: FTP Site

From: roberte@interlink.no (Robert Eliassen)  
Date: Sat, 27 May 1995 20:19:07 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505271818.AB10739@henry>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Jim,

>Bob, tries these two sites: 44.76.5.138 Login in as ftpfwd and use your  
>call as the password... This site seems a little slow though...

A little slow? Boy, this ftp is slower than my 1200 bps packet link!

I have a dial-up connetion to Internet, and that makes it pretty expensive to get bulletins from this site. Well, I'm located in Norway, and this site is in Texas, right? That could explain the poor transfer-rate, but then again... 30 bytes/sec isn't much to brag about.

Perhaps there is a way to get files from this site attached to an email?

Ok, I'll check out ftp.tmn.com. Thanks for your help, Jim!

73 de Bob.

E-mail: roberte@interlink.no  
or: la6gha@amsat.org  
AX.25 (US): LA6GHA@N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
(NO): LA6GHA@LA6GHA.NAM.V.NOR.EU  
Fido: 2:211/7.10@fidonet.org

#### 48. (no subject)

From: techman@ace.com (Techman)  
Date: Sat, 27 May 95 15:49:53 EST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505271549.0.UUL1.3#25274@ace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
SUBSCRIBE

---

#### 49. Re: [BBSSIG:971] Re: FTP Site

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 27 May 1995 14:22:58 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950527141152.3376A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 27 May 1995, Robert Eliassen wrote:

>  
> Jim,  
>  
> >Bob, tries these two sites: 44.76.5.138 Login in as ftpfwd and use your  
> >call as the password... This site seems a little slow though...  
>  
> A little slow? Boy, this ftp is slower than my 1200 bps packet link!  
>  
> I have a dial-up connetion to Internet, and that makes it pretty expensive  
> to get bulletins from this site. Well, I'm located in Norway, and this  
> site is in Texas, right? That could explain the poor transfer-rate, but  
> then again... 30 bytes/sec isn't much to brag about.

Yes true but with guys coming into 44.76.5.138 from all corners of the World to ftp large files, and since this is a jnos 1.10H you must do something to keep alive. Remi is an expert with internet workings and has set his JNOS to be slow but hang in there!

I have thought about getting the files and putting them up on my JNOS but I live in NM very close to Texas. If a guy in say France would get the files from Remi's JNOS and put them in a similar way on their NOS then the world could devide interest into 2 sources....

Or even Norway...hi but not if it takes an expensive long distance telephone call. My nos is connected to the internet by a slip connection at 14.4 kb/s and is faster than Remi's and my slip connection is a local call....

73 de karl, k5di

---

#### 50. Re: [BBSSIG:956] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: jwt@shrine.cyber.ad.jp (Jim Tittsler)  
Date: Sun, 28 May 1995 13:10:14 +0900  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <cU\$nlKhq1SfA078yn@shrine.cyber.ad.jp>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

In article <Pine.SUN.3.91.950526055251.23645F-100000@acca>, Karl wrote:

> That is good! Then all your missing is the ability to run 2 or  
> more tnc's from the same Com port....this being because you can't set  
> them to display the tnc number.  
>

> This is a very powerful feature of the BPQ Switch. It does  
> require that you program the e-proms with bits changed for each tnc to be  
> used.

With the Kantronics implementation you can change the multidrop KISS address using the MYXkdrop n command before switching to KISS. You don't have to reprogram the EPROMs.

73,

Jim 7J1AJH/AI8A 7j1ajh@amsat.org <URL:http://shrine.cyber.ad.jp/~jwt/>

---

#### 51. Re: [BBSSIG:958] Windows version of FBB

From: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Date: Sat, 27 May 1995 22:14:47 -0300  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505280114.WAA13936@bud.cycor.ca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Read a message from LU8QAW Edgardo that he is seeing winFBB beta  
> on many @WW messages down there. I looked thru my headers and don't see  
> any with the @usa address.  
>  
> Anyone out there beta testing a windows version of the f6fbb  
> packet bbs software?  
>  
>  
>  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> \* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu \*

Look for ve4kv @ve4kv.mb.can.noam  
73 - Ron  
velaia

---

## 52. Re: Baycom style modems with BBS?

From: ferracci@ialup.francenet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Sun, 28 May 1995 22:40:56 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199505282040.WAA05459@chleuasme.francenet.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Now that 9600 (parallel port) baycom modems are in production, I hope  
> the TFPCX driver supports (will someday support) this new device.

For the moment, it doesn't. PAR96 (9600 Baycom) is very different from a  
"parallel baycom". TFPCX can handle parallel ports, but can't run with a PAR96.

The only way to use a PAR96 on a BBS or terminal program, for the moment, is  
to run FLEXMINI with a PAR96 driver and a TF emulation.

Let's hope a new TFPCX will come soon !

Laurent

From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ  
Fidonet 2:323/22.1

F1JKJ@Amsat.org

Compuserve ID 100407,436

---

## 53. Re: [BBSSIG:974] Re: improvements to KISS ?

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 30 May 1995 14:34:33 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950530143054.24333A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 30 May 1995, Jim Tittsler wrote:

> In article <Pine.SUN.3.91.950526055251.23645F-100000@acca>, Karl wrote:  
> > That is good! Then all your missing is the ability to run 2 or  
> > more tnc's from the same Com port....this being because you can't set  
> > them to display the tnc number.  
> >  
> > This is a very powerful feature of the BPQ Switch. It does  
> > require that you program the e-proms with bits changed for each tnc to be  
> > used.  
>  
> With the Kantronics implementation you can change the multidrop  
> KISS address using the MYXkdrop n command before switching to KISS.  
> You don't have to reprogram the EPROMs.

I don't understand how this can work Jim. There is little going  
on when in the kiss mode and sure don't know how a setting made before  
going to kiss could effect what the e-prom sends in kiss.

Sure must be funny...hi

>  
> 73,  
> Jim 7J1AJH/AI8A 7j1ajh@amsat.org <URL:http://shrine.cyber.ad.jp/~jwt/>  
>

# June 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9506

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9506](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9506)

## 1. subscribe

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (charles brabham)  
Date: Tue, 6 Jun 1995 22:27:56 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199506070327.WAA14241@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Charles Brabham N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NA  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 2. HamCom (Arlington, TX) get-together

From: dwolf@tcet.unt.edu (Dave Wolf)  
Date: Thu, 8 Jun 95 7:40:57 CDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9506081241.AA194159@tcet.unt.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

For all BBS Sysops attending HamCom this coming weekend in Arlington (TX):

There will be a Texas Packet Radio Society BBS Special Interest Group meeting at 9AM. The place: the 3rd floor conference room of the Marriott Hotel next door to the convention center. All Texas BBS Sysops are encouraged to attend. Sysops from surrounding states are more than welcome to visit and have a cup of coffee. Issues focus primarily on how to keep the mail flowing between BBSs without bringing TexNet to its knees.

73 de Dave W05H VP TPRS

---

## 3. Smack Protocol Description

From: Marco Savegnago <MC2365@mclink.it>  
Date: Tue, 30 May 95 13:22:44 CEST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505301322.aa29236@ax433.mclink.it>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

SMACK - Protocol Description

-----

Version 1.0, Dated 27.02.92

by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE and Dieter Deyke, DK5SG/N0PRA

### 1. Introduction

The end of 1990 was the first time that the Stuttgart Packet-Radio-Amateurs thought about the factual certainty of Data Security between TNC and WAMPES(\*)- Node Computer. Already with other Packet-Node Systems Data losses had appeared, we considered which sort and in what manner a compatible development of the KISS-Protocols with a Checksum could be considered possible. From the Result of this consideration came the name SMACK (Stuttgart Modified Amateur radio CRC-KISS. This Document should explain the difference between SMACK and KISS and make possible the implementation of other Systems.

### 2. What is KISS?

KISS had been recommended by Phil Khan KA9Q [1]. Because his TCP/IP-Software it needed a Protocol, that enabled a simple entry to Packet-Radio below the AX.25-Protocol level. KISS offers a layer 2a-Entry. Assignments of the

TNC are basically, only the Access Control of the Frequency (Channel-Busy-Recognition, P-Persistence-Action) and the conversion of the synchronous HDLC-Data on the PR-Channel into the asynchronous Format of the RS232-Port.  
The KISS-Protocol regulates the demarcation of individual Packets with

Delimiters, the eventual handling in the Data Stream of the appearing Delimiter and defines a simple Command structure for the installation of TNC-Parameters. Also, it has met the provision, to be able to operate TNCs

with more Packet-Channels.

### 3. Modification of the KISS-Protocol

The Host Computer communicates with KISS in the Form of Packets. The beginning of such a Packet will be recognised through the FEND. Then follows the so called Command Byte. It issues, whether it is handling Data- or a Command Packet and what Command is meant. With one exception (Reset-Command = 255) all Commands employ only the lower 4 Bits of this Command Byte. This means, that the upper 4 Bits with Multi-Channel-TNCs can issue the Channel. So 16 Channels can be given Parameters individually.

Because we do not know either 16- or 8-Channel-TNCs, we have used a purpose other than originally intended, the topmost Bit of this Command Byte. If it is set, it handles itself with the doubtful Packet as a Data Packet with CRC (only with Data Packets are to found a Checksum calculation instead!).

With such Packets, the Checksum will be attached at the End of the Frame, and the lower value Byte first. Both of the following illustrations show the layout of a Data Packet once with and once without Checksum.

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x00 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
KISS-Frame without Checksum
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x80 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | CRC LOW | CRC HIGH | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
Smack-Frame with Checksum
```

It should be once again reiterated here, that only Data Packets will be CRC-secured. With that it will be prevented, that a Command can be sent to the TNC, when themselves Host and TNC with CRC/not CRC are in disagreement.

### 4. Switching from KISS onto SMACK

A SMACK-TNC works after switching into the KISS-Modus, therefore generates no Checksum. As soon as the first Packet is received with CRC, it switches its Send Routines likewise to CRC. This Operation condition can be abandoned only through a Reset. The Host behaves analogously. If however a KISS-TNC is connected, so CRC-Frames from the Host by reason of their unknown Command Byte will be discarded and working continued.

This Method has the advantage, that both KISS- as also SMACK-TNCs can be operated alternately to a Host; without that, a reconfiguration is necessary. That should be illustrated by a Display of both cases.

#### ----- Case 1: KISS-TNC

|                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Host</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender on Normal-KISS again.</li> <li>- Dispatches KISS-Data without</li> </ul> | <p>TNC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receives a frame which for it is an unknown Command-byte 0x80 and abandons it.</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



Checksum.

- Dispatches KISS-Data without

Checksum.

#### Fall 2: SMACK-TNC

Host

- Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender onto Normal-KISS again.

TNC

- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.

- Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.
- Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.

- Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.

- TNC sends the first Frame with CRC.

- Dispatches SMACK-Data with

Checksum.

Dependent upon Send condition (CRC/not CRC) the received Frames will always be handled as follows:

| Receiver Frame             | Action                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| No CRC                     | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, Correct Checksum | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, False Checksum   | Frame abandoned          |

This Protocol sets in advance, that a KISS-Implementation abandons its unknown Frame. This will be promoted in the KISS-Specification [1].

#### 4. CRC-Calculation and Implementation Tips

This is not the correct place, to explain the Theory of the cyclical Redundancy-check CRC. Reference should be made to the work of Michael Rhner, DC40X [2]. This extract depicts only important Details for an implementation.

As Check Polynomial the CRC16-Polynomial will be used. This has the form

$$X^{16} + X^{15} + X^2 + 1$$

The CRC-Generator will be pre-set with 0. The calculation of the CRC will be of the CRC over all Data Bytes inclusive of the Command Byte 0x80.

As is well known in the KISS-Protocol the demarcation of the Frame will be performed with the FEND-Character (0xc0). In the case where this Character occurs in the Data Stream, it will be handled otherwise. This occurrence will be named SLIP-Encoding.

The CRC must be calculated, before the SLIP-Encoding takes place, and will be checked, after the SLIP-Decoding has taken place. Instead it gives more Grounds:

- The CRC Bytes could contain FESC, TFEND, FEND etc.
- The SLIP En/Decoder will be used in most Host-Implementations (e.g. WAMPES) also dependent upon KISS, in order to make the Connection to the

Unix-Kernel as an example. Additionally, it is admitted that in this case CRC-Checking would be desirable, but will not be understood by the other side.

The CRCs logically belong therefore, to the KISS Layer.

Instead the Calculation is to be found as follows:

- CRC-Generator pre-set with 0.
- All Data Bytes one behind the other added into the Algorithm, including both CRC-Bytes.
- At the End a 0 must stand again in the CRC-Generator. If the value is not 0, so a Transfer Error has occurred and the Frame must be discarded.

Different Algorithms for the CRC-Generator will be described in [2].

Here is a simple table of a controlled Algorithm issued in the C Programming-Language, which the CRC of a Buffers (buf) calculates the Length

```
n
/*-----*/

static int  calc_crc(char *buf, int n)
{
    static int  crc_table[] = {
        0x0000, 0xc0c1, 0xc181, 0x0140, 0xc301, 0x03c0, 0x0280, 0xc241,
        0xc601, 0x06c0, 0x0780, 0xc741, 0x0500, 0xc5c1, 0xc481, 0x0440,
        0xcc01, 0xcc0, 0x0d80, 0xcd41, 0x0f00, 0xcfc1, 0xce81, 0x0e40,
        0xa00, 0xcac1, 0xcb81, 0x0b40, 0xc901, 0x09c0, 0x0880, 0xc841,
        0xd01, 0x18c0, 0x1980, 0xd941, 0x1b00, 0xdbc1, 0xda81, 0x1a40,
        0x1e00, 0xdec1, 0xdf81, 0x1f40, 0xdd01, 0x1dc0, 0x1c80, 0xdc41,
        0x1400, 0xd4c1, 0xd581, 0x1540, 0xd701, 0x17c0, 0x1680, 0xd641,
        0xd201, 0x12c0, 0x1380, 0xd341, 0x1100, 0xd1c1, 0xd081, 0x1040,
        0xf001, 0x30c0, 0x3180, 0xf141, 0x3300, 0xf3c1, 0xf281, 0x3240,
        0x3600, 0xf6c1, 0xf781, 0x3740, 0xf501, 0x35c0, 0x3480, 0xf441,
        0x3c00, 0xfcc1, 0xfd81, 0x3d40, 0xff01, 0x3fc0, 0x3e80, 0xfe41,
        0xfa01, 0x3ac0, 0x3b80, 0xfb41, 0x3900, 0xf9c1, 0xf881, 0x3840,
        0x2800, 0xe8c1, 0xe981, 0x2940, 0xeb01, 0x2bc0, 0x2a80, 0xea41,
        0xee01, 0x2ec0, 0x2f80, 0xef41, 0x2d00, 0xedc1, 0xec81, 0x2c40,
        0xe401, 0x24c0, 0x2580, 0xe541, 0x2700, 0xe7c1, 0xe681, 0x2640,
        0x2200, 0xe2c1, 0xe381, 0x2340, 0xe101, 0x21c0, 0x2080, 0xe041,
        0xa001, 0x60c0, 0x6180, 0xa141, 0x6300, 0xa3c1, 0xa281, 0x6240,
        0x6600, 0xa6c1, 0xa781, 0x6740, 0xa501, 0x65c0, 0x6480, 0xa441,
        0x6c00, 0xacc1, 0xad81, 0x6d40, 0xaf01, 0x6fc0, 0x6e80, 0xae41,
        0xaa01, 0x6ac0, 0x6b80, 0xab41, 0x6900, 0xa9c1, 0xa881, 0x6840,
        0x7800, 0xb8c1, 0xb981, 0x7940, 0xbb01, 0x7bc0, 0x7a80, 0xba41,
        0xbe01, 0x7ec0, 0x7f80, 0xbf41, 0x7d00, 0xbdc1, 0xbc81, 0x7c40,
        0xb401, 0x74c0, 0x7580, 0xb541, 0x7700, 0xb7c1, 0xb681, 0x7640,
        0x7200, 0xb2c1, 0xb381, 0x7340, 0xb101, 0x71c0, 0x7080, 0xb041,
        0x5000, 0x90c1, 0x9181, 0x5140, 0x9301, 0x53c0, 0x5280, 0x9241,
        0x9601, 0x56c0, 0x5780, 0x9741, 0x5500, 0x95c1, 0x9481, 0x5440,
        0x9c01, 0x5cc0, 0x5d80, 0x9d41, 0x5f00, 0x9fc1, 0x9e81, 0x5e40,
        0x5a00, 0x9ac1, 0x9b81, 0x5b40, 0x9901, 0x59c0, 0x5880, 0x9841,
        0x8801, 0x48c0, 0x4980, 0x8941, 0x4b00, 0x8bc1, 0x8a81, 0x4a40,
        0x4e00, 0x8ec1, 0x8f81, 0x4f40, 0x8d01, 0x4dc0, 0x4c80, 0x8c41,
        0x4400, 0x84c1, 0x8581, 0x4540, 0x8701, 0x47c0, 0x4680, 0x8641,
        0x8201, 0x42c0, 0x4380, 0x8341, 0x4100, 0x81c1, 0x8081, 0x4040
    };

    int  crc;

    crc = 0;
    while (--n >= 0)
        crc = ((crc >> 8) & 0xff) ^ crc_table[(crc ^ *buf++) & 0xff];

    return
    crc;
}

/*-----*/
```

Saving of the Table requires 512 Bytes. If the EPROM in the TNC should be too full for the saving of this Table, so it can be constructed as follows for the Runtime:

```

/*-----*/
unsigned short Table[256];
const int Rest[8] = { 0xC0C1, 0xC181, 0xC301, 0xC601, 0xCC01, 0xD801,
                     0xF001, 0xA001 };
main()
{
    int i, j;
    unsigned short value;

    for (i = 0; i < 256; i++) {
        value = 0;
        for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
            if (i & (1 << j))
                value ^= Rest[j];
        Table[i] = value;
    }
}
/*-----*/

```

If this Algorithm is to be coded in Assembler, so it requires distinctly less space than the Saving of the Table itself. The Theory is to be found again in [2].

## 5. Implementation

Previously this Protocol has been implemented in the following Systems:

- WAMPES
- SMACK, Version 1.3. This Software has been developed further by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE, from TNC2-KISS-Implementation written by K3MC. It will be installed especially in the TNCs of the WAMPES-NODES DB0ID (Digipeater Stuttgart) and DB0SA0 (Mailbox Stuttgart) there it contains also, individual WAMPES-specific adaptations. - In the KISS of the NORD<>LINK-Firmware, from TheFirmware Version 2.4 - For the TCP/IP-Software NOS it gives from Thommy Osterried, DL9SAU, a 'a rundown', of the NOS developed from the SMACK-capabilities.

## 7. Outlook

A desirable Implementation of this Protocol would be especially, a Packet-Driver from the 'Packet driver specification' [3]. With it would be given an uninhibited possibility for all existing NET- and NOS-Versions without alteration of the Source Codes. But also every other Packet-Radio-Software, that installs the KISS-TNCs could profit from the Error Protection of the CRC.

This Protocol Description has a preliminary Character. The Authors (dl5ue@db0sao, dk5sg@db0sao) are thankful for Improvement recommendations,

Advice on Error or other Comments.

(\*) WAMPES = Wrttemberg Amateurradio

Multi-Protocol-Experimental-Software.

A software packet under UNIX, that implements multiple Protocols from

AX.25-, TCP/IP and NET/ROM-Protocol Families and, will be installed mainly in the Stuttgart Area, as Net Nodes. Compare [4].

## Literature

- [1] Karn, Phil, KA9Q; Proposed "Raw" TNC Functional Spec, 6.8.1986; published in the USENET-News;
- [2] Rhner, Michael, DC4OX; Was ist CRC?; distributed in the Packet-Radio Mailbox-Net, May 1988
- [3] FTP Software, Inc.; PC/TCP Version 1.09 Packet Driver Specification; Wakefield, MA 1989
- [4] Schiefer, Jan, DL5UE; WAMPES - Weiterentwicklung; Vortrags-Skriptum des 5. berregionalen Packet-Radio-Treffens; Frankfurt 1989;

#### 4. Re: [BBSSIG:980] Smack Protocol Description

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 9 Jun 1995 23:57:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199506100457.XAA10493@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Marco,  
Thanks for the fine information on KISS with CRC. I know there are some good experiments going on in Europe and we need to have more of the results published in the US. This certainly appears to be good work addressing some of the problems we have in the packet network.

I wonder if you would like to submit this or other related information for inclusion in the ARRL Digital Conference Proceedings.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow       WA0RJT       Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net       wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

#### 5. Smack Protocol Description

From: Marco Savegnago <MC2365@mclink.it>  
Date: Tue, 30 May 95 13:22:44 CEST  
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SMACK - Protocol Description  
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Version 1.0, Dated 27.02.92

by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE and Dieter Deyke, DK5SG/N0PRA

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TNC are basically, only the Access Control of the Frequency (Channel-Busy-Recognition, P-Persistence-Action) and the conversion of the synchronous HDLC-Data on the PR-Channel into the asynchronous Format of the RS232-Port.

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With such Packets, the Checksum will be attached at the End of the Frame, and the lower value Byte first. Both of the following illustrations show the layout of a Data Packet once with and once without Checksum.

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x00 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
KISS-Frame without Checksum
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x80 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | CRC LOW | CRC HIGH | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
SMACK-Frame with Checksum
```

It should be once again reiterated here, that only Data Packets will be CRC-secured. With that it will be prevented, that a Command can be sent to

the TNC, when themselves Host and TNC with CRC/not CRC are in disagreement.

#### 4. Switching from KISS onto SMACK

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its Send Routines likewise to CRC. This Operation condition can be abandoned only through a Reset. The Host behaves analogously. If however a KISS-TNC is connected, so CRC-Frames from the Host by reason of their unknown Command Byte will be discarded and working continued.

This Method has the advantage, that both KISS- as also SMACK-TNCs can be operated alternately to a Host; without that, a reconfiguration is necessary. That should be illustrated by a Display of both cases.

#### Case 1: KISS-TNC

|                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Host</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender on Normal-KISS again.</li> <li>- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.</li> </ul> | <p>TNC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receives a frame which for it is an unknown Command-byte 0x80 and abandons it.</li> <li>- Dispatches KISS-Data without</li> </ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Checksum.

#### Case 2: SMACK-TNC

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Host</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender onto Normal-KISS again.</li> <li>- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.</li> <li>- Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.</li> <li>- Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.</li> </ul> | <p>TNC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.</li> <li>- TNC sends the first Frame with CRC.</li> <li>- Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Dependent upon Send condition (CRC/not CRC) the received Frames will always be handled as follows:

| Receiver Frame             | Action                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| No CRC                     | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, Correct Checksum | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, False Checksum   | Frame abandoned          |

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Length

n

/\*-----\*/

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{
```

```
    static int crc_table[] = {
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        0xc601, 0x06c0, 0x0780, 0xc741, 0x0500, 0xc5c1, 0xc481, 0x0440,
        0xcc01, 0x0cc0, 0x0d80, 0xcd41, 0x0f00, 0xcf01, 0xce81, 0x0e40,
        0x0a00, 0xcac1, 0xcb81, 0x0b40, 0xc901, 0x09c0, 0x0880, 0xc841,
        0xd801, 0x18c0, 0x1980, 0xd941, 0x1b00, 0xdb01, 0xda81, 0x1a40,
        0x1e00, 0xdec1, 0xdf81, 0x1f40, 0xdd01, 0x1dc0, 0x1c80, 0xdc41,
        0x1400, 0xd4c1, 0xd581, 0x1540, 0xd701, 0x17c0, 0x1680, 0xd641,
        0xd201, 0x12c0, 0x1380, 0xd341, 0x1100, 0xd1c1, 0xd081, 0x1040,
        0xf001, 0x30c0, 0x3180, 0xf141, 0x3300, 0xf3c1, 0xf281, 0x3240,
        0x3600, 0xf6c1, 0xf781, 0x3740, 0xf501, 0x35c0, 0x3480, 0xf441,
        0x3c00, 0xfcc1, 0xfdc1, 0x3d40, 0xff01, 0x3fc0, 0x3e80, 0xfe41,
        0xfa01, 0x3ac0, 0x3b80, 0xfb41, 0x3900, 0xf9c1, 0xf881, 0x3840,
        0x2800, 0xe8c1, 0xe981, 0x2940, 0xeb01, 0x2bc0, 0x2a80, 0xea41,
        0xee01, 0x2ec0, 0x2f80, 0xef41, 0x2d00, 0xedc1, 0xec81, 0x2c40,
        0xe401, 0x24c0, 0x2580, 0xe541, 0x2700, 0xe7c1, 0xe681, 0x2640,
        0x2200, 0xe2c1, 0xe381, 0x2340, 0xe101, 0x21c0, 0x2080, 0xe041,
        0xa001, 0x60c0, 0x6180, 0xa141, 0x6300, 0xa3c1, 0xa281, 0x6240,
        0x6600, 0xa6c1, 0xa781, 0x6740, 0xa501, 0xa5c0, 0xa480, 0xa441,
        0x6c00, 0xacc1, 0xad81, 0x6d40, 0xaf01, 0x6fc0, 0x6e80, 0xae41,
        0xaa01, 0x6ac0, 0x6b80, 0xab41, 0x6900, 0xa9c1, 0xa881, 0x6840,
        0x7800, 0xb8c1, 0xb981, 0x7940, 0xbb01, 0x7bc0, 0x7a80, 0xba41,
        0xbe01, 0x7ec0, 0x7f80, 0xbf41, 0x7d00, 0xbdc1, 0xbc81, 0x7c40,
        0xb401, 0x74c0, 0x7580, 0xb541, 0x7700, 0xb7c1, 0xb681, 0x7640,
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        0x5000, 0x90c1, 0x9181, 0x5140, 0x9301, 0x53c0, 0x5280, 0x9241,
        0x9601, 0x56c0, 0x5780, 0x9741, 0x5500, 0x95c1, 0x9481, 0x5440,
        0x9c01, 0x5cc0, 0x5d80, 0x9d41, 0x5f00, 0x9fc1, 0x9e81, 0x5e40,
        0x5a00, 0x9ac1, 0x9b81, 0x5b40, 0x9901, 0x59c0, 0x5880, 0x9841,
        0x8801, 0x48c0, 0x4980, 0x8941, 0x4b00, 0x8bc1, 0x8a81, 0x4a40,
        0x4e00, 0x8ec1, 0x8f81, 0x4f40, 0x8d01, 0x4dc0, 0x4c80, 0x8c41,
        0x4400, 0x84c1, 0x8581, 0x4540, 0x8701, 0x47c0, 0x4680, 0x8641,
        0x8201, 0x42c0, 0x4380, 0x8341, 0x4100, 0x81c1, 0x8081, 0x4040
    };
```

```
    int crc;
```

```
    crc = 0;
```

```
    while (--n >= 0)
```

```
        crc = ((crc >> 8) & 0xff) ^ crc_table[(crc ^ *buf++) & 0xff];
```

```
    return
```

```
    crc;
```

```
}
```

/\*-----\*/

Saving of the Table requires 512 Bytes. If the EPROM in the TNC should be too full for the saving of this Table, so it can be constructed as follows for the Runtime:

/\*-----\*/

```
unsigned short Table[256];
```

```
const int Rest[8] = { 0xC0C1, 0xC181, 0xC301, 0xC601, 0xCC01, 0xD801,
                     0xF001, 0xA001 };
```

```
main()
```

```
{
```

```
    int i, j;
```

```
    unsigned short value;
```

```

        for (i = 0; i < 256; i++) {
            value = 0;
            for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
                if (i & (1 << j))
                    value ^= Rest[j];
            Table[i] = value;
        }
    }
}

/*-----*/

```

If this Algorithm is to be coded in Assembler, so it requires distinctly less space than the Saving of the Table itself. The Theory is to be found again in [2].

## 5. Implementation

Previously this Protocol has been implemented in the following Systems:

- WAMPES
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This Protocol Description has a preliminary Character. The Authors (dl5ue@db0sao, dk5sg@db0sao) are thankful for Improvement recommendations,

Advice on Error or other Comments.

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A software packet under UNIX, that implements multiple Protocols from AX.25-, TCP/IP and NET/ROM-Protocol Families and, will be installed mainly in the Stuttgart Area, as Net Nodes. Compare [4].

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Translation by G0KIU

## 6. Smack Protocol Description

From: Marco Savegnago <MC2365@mclink.it>  
Date: Tue, 30 May 95 13:22:44 CEST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505301322.aa29236@ax433.mclink.it>



Rendered body type: text/plain

## SMACK - Protocol Description

Version 1.0, Dated 27.02.92

by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE and Dieter Deyke, DK5SG/N0PRA

### 1. Introduction

The end of 1990 was the first time that the Stuttgart Packet-Radio-Amateurs thought about the factual certainty of Data Security between TNC and WAMPES(\*)- Node Computer. Already with other Packet-Node Systems Data losses had appeared, we considered which sort and in what manner a compatible development of the KISS-Protocols with a Checksum could be considered possible. From the Result of this consideration came the name SMACK (Stuttgart Modified Amateur radio CRC-KISS. This Document should explain the difference between SMACK and KISS and make possible the implementation of other Systems.

### 2. What is KISS?

KISS had been recommended by Phil Khan KA9Q [1]. Because his TCP/IP-Software it needed a Protocol, that enabled a simple entry to Packet-Radio below the AX.25-Protocol level. KISS offers a layer 2a-Entry. Assignments of the TNC are basically, only the Access Control of the Frequency (Channel-Busy-Recognition, P-Persistence-Action) and the conversion of the synchronous HDLC-Data on the PR-Channel into the asynchronous Format of the RS232-Port. The KISS-Protocol regulates the demarcation of individual Packets with Delimiters, the eventual handling n the Data Stream of the appearing Delimiter and defines a simple Command structure for the installation of TNC-Parameters. Also, it has met the provision, to be able to operate TNCs with more Packet-Channels.

### 3. Modification of the KISS-Protocol

The Host Computer communicates with KISS in the Form of Packets. The beginning of such a Packet will be recognised through the FEND. Then follows the so called Command Byte. It issues, whether it is handling Data- or a Command Packet and what Command is meant. With one exception (Reset-Command = 255) all Commands employ only the lower 4 Bits of this Command Byte. This means, that the upper 4 Bits with Multi-Channel-TNCs can issue the Channel. So 16 Channels can be given Parameters individually.

Because we do not know either 16- or 8-Channel-TNCs, we have used a purpose other than originally intended, the topmost Bit of this Command Byte. If it is set, it handles itself with the doubtful Packet as a Data Packet with CRC (only with Data Packets are to found a Checksum calculation instead!).

With such Packets, the Checksum will be attached at the End of the Frame, and the lower value Byte first. Both of the following illustrations show the layout of a Data Packet once with and once without Checksum.

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x00 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
KISS-Frame without Checksum
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x80 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | CRC LOW | CRC HIGH | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
Smack-Frame with Checksum
```

It should be once again reiterated here, that only Data Packets will be CRC-secured. With that it will be prevented, that a Command can be sent to

the TNC, when themselves Host and TNC with CRC/not CRC are in disagreement.

#### 4. Switching from KISS onto SMACK

A SMACK-TNC works after switching into the KISS-Modus, therefore generates no Checksum. As soon as the first Packet is received with CRC, it switches its Send Routines likewise to CRC. This Operation condition can be abandoned only through a Reset. The Host behaves analogously. If however a KISS-TNC is connected, so CRC-Frames from the Host by reason of their unknown Command Byte will be discarded and working continued.

This Method has the advantage, that both KISS- as also SMACK-TNCs can be operated alternately to a Host; without that, a reconfiguration is necessary. That should be illustrated by a Display of both cases.

#### ----- Case 1: KISS-TNC

| Host                                                                                  | TNC                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| - Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender on Normal-KISS again. |                                                                                  |
|                                                                                       | - Receives a frame which for it is an unknown Command-byte 0x80 and abandons it. |
| - Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.                                              |                                                                                  |
|                                                                                       | - Dispatches KISS-Data without                                                   |

Checksum.

#### ----- Fall 2: SMACK-TNC

| Host                                                                                    | TNC                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| - Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender onto Normal-KISS again. |                                                                      |
|                                                                                         | - Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC. |
| - Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.                                                |                                                                      |
|                                                                                         | - TNC sends the first Frame with CRC.                                |
| - Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.                    |                                                                      |
| - Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.                                                  |                                                                      |
|                                                                                         | - Dispatches SMACK-Data with                                         |

Checksum.

-----  
Dependent upon Send condition (CRC/not CRC) the received Frames will always be handled as follows:

| Receiver Frame             | Action                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| No CRC                     | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, Correct Checksum | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, False Checksum   | Frame abandoned          |

This Protocol sets in advance, that a KISS-Implementation abandons its unknown Frame. This will be promoted in the KISS-Specification [1].

#### 4. CRC-Calculation and Implementation Tips

This is not the correct place, to explain the Theory of the cyclical Redundancy-check CRC. Reference should be made to the work of Michael Rhner, DC40X [2]. This extract depicts only important Details for an implementation.

As Check Polynomial the CRC16-Polynomial will be used. This has the form

$$X^{16} + X^{15} + X^2 + 1$$

The CRC-Generator will be pre-set with 0. The calculation of the CRC will be of the CRC over all Data Bytes inclusive of the Command Byte 0x80.

As is well known in the KISS-Protocol the demarcation of the Frame will be performed with the FEND-Character (0xc0). In the case where this Character occurs in the Data Stream, it will be handled otherwise. This occurrence will be named SLIP-Encoding.

The CRC must be calculated, before the SLIP-Encoding takes place, and will be checked, after the SLIP-Decoding has taken place. Instead it gives more Grounds:

- The CRC Bytes could contain FESC, TFEND, FEND etc.
- The SLIP En/Decoder will be used in most Host-Implementations (e.g. WAMPES) also dependent upon KISS, in order to make the Connection to the Unix-Kernel as an example. Additionally, it is admitted that in this case CRC-Checking would be desirable, but will not be understood by the other side.

The CRCs logically belong therefore, to the KISS Layer.

Instead the Calculation is to be found as follows:

- CRC-Generator pre-set with 0.
- All Data Bytes one behind the other added into the Algorithm, including both CRC-Bytes.
- At the End a 0 must stand again in the CRC-Generator. If the value is not 0, so a Transfer Error has occurred and the Frame must be discarded.

Different Algorithms for the CRC-Generator will be described in [2].

Here is a simple table of a controlled Algorithm issued in the C Programming-Language, which the CRC of a Buffers (buf) calculates the Length

```
n
/*-----*/
```

```
static int calc_crc(char *buf, int n)
{
```

```
    static int crc_table[] = {
        0x0000, 0xc0c1, 0xc181, 0x0140, 0xc301, 0x03c0, 0x0280, 0xc241,
        0xc601, 0x06c0, 0x0780, 0xc741, 0x0500, 0xc5c1, 0xc481, 0x0440,
        0xcc01, 0xcc0, 0x0d80, 0xcd41, 0x0f00, 0xcfc1, 0xce81, 0x0e40,
        0x0a00, 0xcac1, 0xcb81, 0x0b40, 0xc901, 0x09c0, 0x0880, 0xc841,
        0xd801, 0x18c0, 0x1980, 0xd941, 0x1b00, 0xdbc1, 0xda81, 0x1a40,
        0x1e00, 0xdec1, 0xdf81, 0x1f40, 0xdd01, 0x1dc0, 0x1c80, 0xdc41,
        0x1400, 0xd4c1, 0xd581, 0x1540, 0xd701, 0x17c0, 0x1680, 0xd641,
        0xd201, 0x12c0, 0x1380, 0xd341, 0x1100, 0xd1c1, 0xd081, 0x1040,
        0xf001, 0x30c0, 0x3180, 0xf141, 0x3300, 0xf3c1, 0xf281, 0x3240,
        0x3600, 0xf6c1, 0xf781, 0x3740, 0xf501, 0x35c0, 0x3480, 0xf441,
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        0x2800, 0xe8c1, 0xe981, 0x2940, 0xeb01, 0x2bc0, 0x2a80, 0xea41,
        0xee01, 0x2ec0, 0x2f80, 0xef41, 0x2d00, 0xedc1, 0xec81, 0x2c40,
        0xe401, 0x24c0, 0x2580, 0xe541, 0x2700, 0xe7c1, 0xe681, 0x2640,
```

```

    0x2200, 0xe2c1, 0xe381, 0x2340, 0xe101, 0x21c0, 0x2080, 0xe041,
    0xa001, 0x60c0, 0x6180, 0xa141, 0x6300, 0xa3c1, 0xa281, 0x6240,
    0x6600, 0xa6c1, 0xa781, 0x6740, 0xa501, 0x65c0, 0x6480, 0xa441,
    0x6c00, 0xacc1, 0xad81, 0x6d40, 0xaf01, 0x6fc0, 0x6e80, 0xae41,
    0xaa01, 0x6ac0, 0x6b80, 0xab41, 0x6900, 0xa9c1, 0xa881, 0x6840,
    0x7800, 0xb8c1, 0xb981, 0x7940, 0xbb01, 0x7bc0, 0x7a80, 0xba41,
    0xbe01, 0x7ec0, 0x7f80, 0xbf41, 0x7d00, 0xbdc1, 0xbc81, 0x7c40,
    0xb401, 0x74c0, 0x7580, 0xb541, 0x7700, 0xb7c1, 0xb681, 0x7640,
    0x7200, 0xb2c1, 0xb381, 0x7340, 0xb101, 0x71c0, 0x7080, 0xb041,
    0x5000, 0x90c1, 0x9181, 0x5140, 0x9301, 0x53c0, 0x5280, 0x9241,
    0x9601, 0x56c0, 0x5780, 0x9741, 0x5500, 0x95c1, 0x9481, 0x5440,
    0x9c01, 0x5cc0, 0x5d80, 0x9d41, 0x5f00, 0x9fc1, 0x9e81, 0x5e40,
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    0x8801, 0x48c0, 0x4980, 0x8941, 0x4b00, 0x8bc1, 0x8a81, 0x4a40,
    0x4e00, 0x8ec1, 0x8f81, 0x4f40, 0x8d01, 0x4dc0, 0x4c80, 0x8c41,
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    0x8201, 0x42c0, 0x4380, 0x8341, 0x4100, 0x81c1, 0x8081, 0x4040
};

int  crc;

crc = 0;
while (--n >= 0)
    crc = ((crc >> 8) & 0xff) ^ crc_table[(crc ^ *buf++) & 0xff];

return
crc;
}

/*-----*/

Saving of the Table requires 512 Bytes. If the EPROM in the TNC should
be too full for the saving of this Table, so it can be constructed as
follows for the
Runtime:

/*-----*/

unsigned short Table[256];
const int Rest[8] = { 0xC0C1, 0xC181, 0xC301, 0xC601, 0xCC01, 0xD801,
                     0xF001, 0xA001 };
main()
{
    int i, j;
    unsigned short value;

    for (i = 0; i < 256; i++) {
        value = 0;
        for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
            if (i & (1 << j))
                value ^= Rest[j];
        Table[i] = value;
    }
}

/*-----*/

```

If this Algorithm is to be coded in Assembler, so it requires distinctly less space than the Saving of the Table itself.  
The Theory is to be found again in [2].

## 5. Implementation

Previously this Protocol has been implemented in the following Systems:

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Translation by G0KIU

---

## 7. Re: [BBSSIG:981] Re: Smack Protocol Description

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Sun, 11 Jun 1995 13:29:54 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199506111829.NAA05757@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

This would be great for the upcoming DCC deadline July 21st.

Greg

According to Barry Buelow WA0RJT:

```
>
>
> Marco,
> Thanks for the fine information on KISS with CRC. I know there are
> some good experiments going on in Europe and we need to have more
> of the results published in the US. This certainly appears to
> be good work addressing some of the problems we have in the packet
> network.
>
> I wonder if you would like to submit this or other related information
> for inclusion in the ARRL Digital Conference Proceedings.
>
> 73 Barry
>
> --
>
> Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA
> barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam
>
>
```

---

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Version 1.0, Dated 27.02.92

by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE and Dieter Deyke, DK5SG/N0PRA

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With such Packets, the Checksum will be attached at the End of the Frame, and the lower value Byte first. Both of the following illustrations show the layout of a Data Packet once with and once without Checksum.

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x00 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
KISS-Frame without Checksum
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x80 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | CRC LOW | CRC HIGH | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
Smack-Frame with Checksum
```

It should be once again reiterated here, that only Data Packets will be CRC-secured. With that it will be prevented, that a Command can be sent to

the TNC, when themselves Host and TNC with CRC/not CRC are in disagreement.

#### 4. Switching from KISS onto SMACK

A SMACK-TNC works after switching into the KISS-Modus, therefore generates no Checksum. As soon as the first Packet is received with CRC, it switches its Send Routines likewise to CRC. This Operation condition can be abandoned only through a Reset. The Host behaves analogously. If however a KISS-TNC is connected, so CRC-Frames from the Host by reason of their unknown Command Byte will be discarded and working continued.

This Method has the advantage, that both KISS- as also SMACK-TNCs can be operated alternately to a Host; without that, a reconfiguration is necessary. That should be illustrated by a Display of both cases.

##### ----- Case 1: KISS-TNC

| Host                                                                                  | TNC                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| - Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender on Normal-KISS again. |                                                                                  |
|                                                                                       | - Receives a frame which for it is an unknown Command-byte 0x80 and abandons it. |
| - Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.                                              |                                                                                  |
|                                                                                       | - Dispatches KISS-Data without                                                   |

Checksum.

##### ----- Fall 2: SMACK-TNC

| Host                                                                                    | TNC                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| - Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender onto Normal-KISS again. |                                                                      |
|                                                                                         | - Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC. |
| - Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.                                                |                                                                      |
|                                                                                         | - TNC sends the first Frame with CRC.                                |
| - Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.                    |                                                                      |
| - Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.                                                  |                                                                      |
|                                                                                         | - Dispatches SMACK-Data with                                         |

Checksum.

-----  
Dependent upon Send condition (CRC/not CRC) the received Frames will always be handled as follows:

| Receiver Frame             | Action                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| No CRC                     | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, Correct Checksum | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, False Checksum   | Frame abandoned          |

This Protocol sets in advance, that a KISS-Implementation abandons its unknown Frame. This will be promoted in the KISS-Specification [1].

#### 4. CRC-Calculation and Implementation Tips

This is not the correct place, to explain the Theory of the cyclical Redundancy-check CRC. Reference should be made to the work of Michael Rhner, DC40X [2]. This extract depicts only important Details for an implementation.

As Check Polynomial the CRC16-Polynomial will be used. This has the form

$$X^{16} + X^{15} + X^2 + 1$$

The CRC-Generator will be pre-set with 0. The calculation of the CRC will be of the CRC over all Data Bytes inclusive of the Command Byte 0x80.

As is well known in the KISS-Protocol the demarcation of the Frame will be performed with the FEND-Character (0xc0). In the case where this Character occurs in the Data Stream, it will be handled otherwise. This occurrence will be named SLIP-Encoding.

The CRC must be calculated, before the SLIP-Encoding takes place, and will be checked, after the SLIP-Decoding has taken place. Instead it gives more Grounds:

- The CRC Bytes could contain FESC, TFEND, FEND etc.
- The SLIP En/Decoder will be used in most Host-Implementations (e.g. WAMPES) also dependent upon KISS, in order to make the Connection to the Unix-Kernel as an example. Additionally, it is admitted that in this case CRC-Checking would be desirable, but will not be understood by the other side.

The CRCs logically belong therefore, to the KISS Layer.

Instead the Calculation is to be found as follows:

- CRC-Generator pre-set with 0.
- All Data Bytes one behind the other added into the Algorithm, including both CRC-Bytes.
- At the End a 0 must stand again in the CRC-Generator. If the value is not 0, so a Transfer Error has occurred and the Frame must be discarded.

Different Algorithms for the CRC-Generator will be described in [2].

Here is a simple table of a controlled Algorithm issued in the C Programming-Language, which the CRC of a Buffers (buf) calculates the Length

```
n
/*-----*/
```

```
static int calc_crc(char *buf, int n)
{
```

```
    static int crc_table[] = {
        0x0000, 0xc0c1, 0xc181, 0x0140, 0xc301, 0x03c0, 0x0280, 0xc241,
        0xc601, 0x06c0, 0x0780, 0xc741, 0x0500, 0xc5c1, 0xc481, 0x0440,
        0xcc01, 0x0cc0, 0x0d80, 0xcd41, 0x0f00, 0xcf01, 0xce81, 0x0e40,
        0xa000, 0xcac1, 0xcb81, 0x0b40, 0xc901, 0x09c0, 0x0880, 0xc841,
        0xd801, 0x18c0, 0x1980, 0xd941, 0x1b00, 0xdb01, 0xda81, 0x1a40,
        0x1e00, 0xdec1, 0xdf81, 0x1f40, 0xdd01, 0x1dc0, 0x1c80, 0xdc41,
        0x1400, 0xd4c1, 0xd581, 0x1540, 0xd701, 0x17c0, 0x1680, 0xd641,
        0xd201, 0x12c0, 0x1380, 0xd341, 0x1100, 0xd1c1, 0xd081, 0x1040,
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        0x3c00, 0xfcc1, 0xfd81, 0x3d40, 0xff01, 0x3fc0, 0x3e80, 0xfe41,
        0xfa01, 0x3ac0, 0x3b80, 0xfb41, 0x3900, 0xf9c1, 0xf881, 0x3840,
        0x2800, 0xe8c1, 0xe981, 0x2940, 0xeb01, 0x2bc0, 0x2a80, 0xea41,
        0xee01, 0x2ec0, 0x2f80, 0xef41, 0x2d00, 0xedc1, 0xec81, 0x2c40,
        0xe401, 0x24c0, 0x2580, 0xe541, 0x2700, 0xe7c1, 0xe681, 0x2640,
```



```

    0x2200, 0xe2c1, 0xe381, 0x2340, 0xe101, 0x21c0, 0x2080, 0xe041,
    0xa001, 0x60c0, 0x6180, 0xa141, 0x6300, 0xa3c1, 0xa281, 0x6240,
    0x6600, 0xa6c1, 0xa781, 0x6740, 0xa501, 0x65c0, 0x6480, 0xa441,
    0x6c00, 0xacc1, 0xad81, 0x6d40, 0xaf01, 0x6fc0, 0x6e80, 0xae41,
    0xaa01, 0x6ac0, 0x6b80, 0xab41, 0x6900, 0xa9c1, 0xa881, 0x6840,
    0x7800, 0xb8c1, 0xb981, 0x7940, 0xbb01, 0x7bc0, 0x7a80, 0xba41,
    0xbe01, 0x7ec0, 0x7f80, 0xbf41, 0x7d00, 0xbdc1, 0xbc81, 0x7c40,
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    0x9601, 0x56c0, 0x5780, 0x9741, 0x5500, 0x95c1, 0x9481, 0x5440,
    0x9c01, 0x5cc0, 0x5d80, 0x9d41, 0x5f00, 0x9fc1, 0x9e81, 0x5e40,
    0x5a00, 0x9ac1, 0x9b81, 0x5b40, 0x9901, 0x59c0, 0x5880, 0x9841,
    0x8801, 0x48c0, 0x4980, 0x8941, 0x4b00, 0x8bc1, 0x8a81, 0x4a40,
    0x4e00, 0x8ec1, 0x8f81, 0x4f40, 0x8d01, 0x4dc0, 0x4c80, 0x8c41,
    0x4400, 0x84c1, 0x8581, 0x4540, 0x8701, 0x47c0, 0x4680, 0x8641,
    0x8201, 0x42c0, 0x4380, 0x8341, 0x4100, 0x81c1, 0x8081, 0x4040
};

int  crc;

crc = 0;
while (--n >= 0)
    crc = ((crc >> 8) & 0xff) ^ crc_table[(crc ^ *buf++) & 0xff];

return
crc;
}

/*-----*/

Saving of the Table requires 512 Bytes. If the EPROM in the TNC should
be too full for the saving of this Table, so it can be constructed as
follows for the
Runtime:

/*-----*/

unsigned short Table[256];
const int Rest[8] = { 0xC0C1, 0xC181, 0xC301, 0xC601, 0xCC01, 0xD801,
                     0xF001, 0xA001 };
main()
{
    int i, j;
    unsigned short value;

    for (i = 0; i < 256; i++) {
        value = 0;
        for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
            if (i & (1 << j))
                value ^= Rest[j];
        Table[i] = value;
    }
}

/*-----*/

```

If this Algorithm is to be coded in Assembler, so it requires distinctly less space than the Saving of the Table itself.  
The Theory is to be found again in [2].

## 5. Implementation

Previously this Protocol has been implemented in the following Systems:

- WAMPES
- SMACK, Version 1.3. This Software has been developed further by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE, from TNC2-KISS-Implementation written by K3MC. It will be installed especially in the TNCs of the WAMPES-NODES DB0ID (Digipeater Stuttgart) and DB0SAO (Mailbox Stuttgart) there it contains also, individual WAMPES-specific adaptations. - In the KISS of the NORD<<LINK-Firmware, from TheFirmware Version 2.4 - For the TCP/IP-Software NOS it gives from Thommy Osterried, DL9SAU, a 'a rundown', of the NOS developed from the SMACK-capabilities.

## 7. Outlook

A desirable Implementation of this Protocol would be especially, a Packet-Driver from the 'Packet driver specification' [3]. With it would be given an uninhibited possibility for all existing NET- and NOS-Versions without alteration of the Source Codes. But also every other Packet-Radio-Software, that installs the KISS-TNCs could profit from the Error Protection of the CRC.

This Protocol Description has a preliminary Character. The Authors (dl5ue@db0sao, dk5sg@db0sao) are thankful for Improvement recommendations,

Advice on Error or other Comments.

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A software packet under UNIX, that implements multiple Protocols from AX.25-, TCP/IP and NET/ROM-Protocol Families and, will be installed mainly in the Stuttgart Area, as Net Nodes. Compare [4].

## Literature

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Translation by G0KIU

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Date: Tue, 30 May 95 13:22:44 CEST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505301322.aa29236@ax433.mclink.it>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

### SMACK - Protocol Description

Version 1.0, Dated 27.02.92

by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE and Dieter Deyke, DK5SG/N0PRA

### 1. Introduction

The end of 1990 was the first time that the Stuttgart Packet-Radio-Amateurs thought about the factual certainty of Data Security between TNC and WAMPES(\*)- Node Computer. Already with other Packet-Node Systems Data losses had appeared, we considered which sort and in what manner a compatible development of the KISS-Protocols with a Checksum could be considered possible. From the Result of this consideration came the name SMACK (Stuttgart Modified Amateur radio CRC-KISS. This Document should explain the difference between SMACK and KISS and make possible the implementation of other Systems.

### 2. What is KISS?

KISS had been recommended by Phil Khan KA9Q [1]. Because his TCP/IP-Software it needed a Protocol, that enabled a simple entry to Packet-Radio below the AX.25-Protocol level. KISS offers a layer 2a-Entry. Assignments of the TNC are basically, only the Access Control of the Frequency (Channel-Busy-

Recognition, P-Persistence-Action) and the conversion of the synchronous HDLC-Data on the PR-Channel into the asynchronous Format of the RS232-Port.  
The KISS-Protocol regulates the demarcation of individual Packets with Delimiters, the eventual handling in the Data Stream of the appearing Delimiter and defines a simple Command structure for the installation of TNC-Parameters. Also, it has met the provision, to be able to operate TNCs with more Packet-Channels.

### 3. Modification of the KISS-Protocol

The Host Computer communicates with KISS in the Form of Packets. The beginning of such a Packet will be recognised through the FEND. Then follows the so called Command Byte. It issues, whether it is handling Data- or a Command Packet and what Command is meant. With one exception (Reset-Command = 255) all Commands employ only the lower 4 Bits of this Command Byte. This means, that the upper 4 Bits with Multi-Channel-TNCs can issue the Channel. So 16 Channels can be given Parameters individually.

Because we do not know either 16- or 8-Channel-TNCs, we have used a purpose other than originally intended, the topmost Bit of this Command Byte. If it is set, it handles itself with the doubtful Packet as a Data Packet with CRC (only with Data Packets are to found a Checksum calculation instead!).

With such Packets, the Checksum will be attached at the End of the Frame, and the lower value Byte first. Both of the following illustrations show the layout of a Data Packet once with and once without Checksum.

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x00 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
KISS-Frame without Checksum
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x80 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | CRC LOW | CRC HIGH | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
Smack-Frame with Checksum
```

It should be once again reiterated here, that only Data Packets will be CRC-secured. With that it will be prevented, that a Command can be sent to the TNC, when themselves Host and TNC with CRC/not CRC are in disagreement.

### 4. Switching from KISS onto SMACK

A SMACK-TNC works after switching into the KISS-Modus, therefore generates no Checksum. As soon as the first Packet is received with CRC, it switches its Send Routines likewise to CRC. This Operation condition can be abandoned only through a Reset. The Host behaves analogously. If however a KISS-TNC is connected, so CRC-Frames from the Host by reason of their unknown Command Byte will be discarded and working continued.

This Method has the advantage, that both KISS- as also SMACK-TNCs can be operated alternately to a Host; without that, a reconfiguration is necessary. That should be illustrated by a Display of both cases.

#### Case 1: KISS-TNC

|                                                                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Host                                                                                  | TNC |
| - Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender on Normal-KISS again. |     |

- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.
- Receives a frame which for it is an unknown Command-byte 0x80 and abandons it.
- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.

#### Fall 2: SMACK-TNC

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Host</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender onto Normal-KISS again.</li> <li>- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.</li> <li>- Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.</li> <li>- Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.</li> </ul> | <p>TNC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.</li> <li>- TNC sends the first Frame with CRC.</li> <li>- Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Dependent upon Send condition (CRC/not CRC) the received Frames will always be handled as follows:

| Receiver Frame             | Action                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| No CRC                     | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, Correct Checksum | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, False Checksum   | Frame abandoned          |

This Protocol sets in advance, that a KISS-Implementation abandons its unknown Frame. This will be promoted in the KISS-Specification [1].

#### 4. CRC-Calculation and Implementation Tips

This is not the correct place, to explain the Theory of the cyclical Redundancy-check CRC. Reference should be made to the work of Michael Rhner, DC40X [2]. This extract depicts only important Details for an implementation.

As Check Polynomial the CRC16-Polynomial will be used. This has the form

$$X^{16} + X^{15} + X^2 + 1$$

The CRC-Generator will be pre-set with 0. The calculation of the CRC will be of the CRC over all Data Bytes inclusive of the Command Byte 0x80.

As is well known in the KISS-Protocol the demarcation of the Frame will be performed with the FEND-Character (0xc0). In the case where this Character occurs in the Data Stream, it will be handled otherwise. This occurrence will be named SLIP-Encoding.

The CRC must be calculated, before the SLIP-Encoding takes place, and will be checked, after the SLIP-Decoding has taken place. Instead it gives more Grounds:

- The CRC Bytes could contain FESC, TFEND, FEND etc.
- The SLIP En/Decoder will be used in most Host-Implementations (e.g. WAMPES) also dependent upon KISS, in order to make the Connection to the Unix-Kernel as an example. Additionally, it is admitted that in this case CRC-Checking would be desirable, but will not be understood by the other side.

The CRCs logically belong therefore, to the KISS Layer.

Instead the Calculation is to be found as follows:

- CRC-Generator pre-set with 0.
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Different Algorithms for the CRC-Generator will be described in [2].

Here is a simple table of a controlled Algorithm issued in the C Programming-Language, which the CRC of a Buffers (buf) calculates the Length

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/*-----*/

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    };

    int  crc;

    crc = 0;
    while (--n >= 0)
        crc = ((crc >> 8) & 0xff) ^ crc_table[(crc ^ *buf++) & 0xff];

    return
    crc;
}

/*-----*/
```

Saving of the Table requires 512 Bytes. If the EPROM in the TNC should be too full for the saving of this Table, so it can be constructed as

follows for the  
Runtime:

```
/*-----*/

unsigned short Table[256];
const int Rest[8] = { 0xC0C1, 0xC181, 0xC301, 0xC601, 0xCC01, 0xD801,
                     0xF001, 0xA001 };
main()
{
    int i, j;
    unsigned short value;

    for (i = 0; i < 256; i++) {
        value = 0;
        for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
            if (i & (1 << j))
                value ^= Rest[j];
        Table[i] = value;
    }
}

/*-----*/
```

If this Algorithm is to be coded in Assembler, so it requires distinctly less space than the Saving of the Table itself.  
The Theory is to be found again in [2].

## 5. Implementation

Previously this Protocol has been implemented in the following Systems:

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## 7. Outlook

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KISS had been recommended by Phil Khan KA9Q [1]. Because his TCP/IP-Software it needed a Protocol, that enabled a simple entry to Packet-Radio below the AX.25-Protocol level. KISS offers a layer 2a-Entry. Assignments of the TNC are basically, only the Access Control of the Frequency (Channel-Busy-Recognition, P-Persistence-Action) and the conversion of the synchronous HDLC-Data on the PR-Channel into the asynchronous Format of the RS232-Port. The KISS-Protocol regulates the demarcation of individual Packets with Delimiters, the eventual handling n the Data Stream of the appearing Delimiter and defines a simple Command structure for the installation of TNC-Parameters. Also, it has met the provision, to be able to operate TNCs with more Packet-Channels.

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The Host Computer communicates with KISS in the Form of Packets. The beginning of such a Packet will be recognised through the FEND. Then follows the so called Command Byte. It issues, whether it is handling Data- or a Command Packet and what Command is meant. With one exception (Reset-Command = 255) all Commands employ only the lower 4 Bits of this Command Byte. This means, that the upper 4 Bits with Multi-Channel-TNCs can issue the Channel. So 16 Channels can be given Parameters individually.

Because we do not know either 16- or 8-Channel-TNCs, we have used a purpose other than originally intended, the topmost Bit of this Command Byte. If it is set, it handles itself with the doubtful Packet as a Data Packet with CRC (only with Data Packets are to found a Checksum calculation instead!).

With such Packets, the Checksum will be attached at the End of the Frame, and the lower value Byte first. Both of the following illustrations show the layout of a Data Packet once with and once without Checksum.

```

+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x00 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
KISS-Frame without Checksum

```

```

+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x80 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | CRC LOW | CRC HIGH | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
Smack-Frame with Checksum

```

It should be once again reiterated here, that only Data Packets will be CRC-secured. With that it will be prevented, that a Command can be sent to

the TNC, when themselves Host and TNC with CRC/not CRC are in disagreement.

#### 4. Switching from KISS onto SMACK

A SMACK-TNC works after switching into the KISS-Modus, therefore generates no Checksum. As soon as the first Packet is received with CRC, it switches

its Send Routines likewise to CRC. This Operation condition can be abandoned only through a Reset. The Host behaves analogously. If however a KISS-TNC is connected, so CRC-Frames from the Host by reason of their unknown Command Byte will be discarded and working continued.

This Method has the advantage, that both KISS- as also SMACK-TNCs can be operated alternately to a Host; without that, a reconfiguration is necessary. That should be illustrated by a Display of both cases.

#### Case 1: KISS-TNC

| Host                                                                                  | TNC                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| - Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender on Normal-KISS again. | - Receives a frame which for it is an unknown Command-byte 0x80 and abandons it. |
| - Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.                                              | - Dispatches KISS-Data without                                                   |
| Checksum.                                                                             |                                                                                  |

#### Fall 2: SMACK-TNC

| Host                                                                                    | TNC                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| - Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender onto Normal-KISS again. | - Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC. |
| - Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.                                                | - TNC sends the first Frame with CRC.                                |
| - Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.                    |                                                                      |
| - Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.                                                  | - Dispatches SMACK-Data with                                         |



Checksum.

-----  
Dependent upon Send condition (CRC/not CRC) the received Frames will always be handled as follows:

| Receiver Frame             | Action                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| No CRC                     | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, Correct Checksum | Frame progressed further |
| With CRC, False Checksum   | Frame abandoned          |

This Protocol sets in advance, that a KISS-Implementation abandons its unknown Frame. This will be promoted in the KISS-Specification [1].

#### 4. CRC-Calculation and Implementation Tips

This is not the correct place, to explain the Theory of the cyclical Redundancy-check CRC. Reference should be made to the work of Michael Rhner, DC40X [2]. This extract depicts only important Details for an implementation.

As Check Polynomial the CRC16-Polynomial will be used. This has the form

$$X^{16} + X^{15} + X^2 + 1$$

The CRC-Generator will be pre-set with 0. The calculation of the CRC will be of the CRC over all Data Bytes inclusive of the Command Byte 0x80.

As is well known in the KISS-Protocol the demarcation of the Frame will be performed with the FEND-Character (0xc0). In the case where this Character occurs in the Data Stream, it will be handled otherwise. This occurrence will be named SLIP-Encoding.

The CRC must be calculated, before the SLIP-Encoding takes place, and will be checked, after the SLIP-Decoding has taken place. Instead it gives more Grounds:

- The CRC Bytes could contain FESC, TFEND, FEND etc.
- The SLIP En/Decoder will be used in most Host-Implementations (e.g. WAMPES) also dependent upon KISS, in order to make the Connection to the Unix-Kernel as an example. Additionally, it is admitted that in this case CRC-Checking would be desirable, but will not be understood by the other side.

The CRCs logically belong therefore, to the KISS Layer.

Instead the Calculation is to be found as follows:

- CRC-Generator pre-set with 0.
- All Data Bytes one behind the other added into the Algorithm, including both CRC-Bytes.
- At the End a 0 must stand again in the CRC-Generator. If the value is not 0, so a Transfer Error has occurred and the Frame must be discarded.

Different Algorithms for the CRC-Generator will be described in [2]. Here is a simple table of a controlled Algorithm issued in the C Programming-Language, which the CRC of a Buffers (buf) calculates the Length n  
/\*-----\*/

```
static int  calc_crc(char *buf, int n)
{
    static int  crc_table[] = {
        0x0000, 0xc0c1, 0xc181, 0x0140, 0xc301, 0x03c0, 0x0280, 0xc241,
        0xc601, 0x06c0, 0x0780, 0xc741, 0x0500, 0xc5c1, 0xc481, 0x0440,
```

```

0xcc01, 0xcc0, 0x0d80, 0xcd41, 0x0f00, 0xcfc1, 0xce81, 0x0e40,
0x0a00, 0xcac1, 0xcb81, 0x0b40, 0xc901, 0x09c0, 0x0880, 0xc841,
0xd801, 0x18c0, 0x1980, 0xd941, 0x1b00, 0xdbc1, 0xda81, 0x1a40,
0x1e00, 0xdec1, 0xdf81, 0x1f40, 0xdd01, 0x1dc0, 0x1c80, 0xdc41,
0x1400, 0xd4c1, 0xd581, 0x1540, 0xd701, 0x17c0, 0x1680, 0xd641,
0xd201, 0x12c0, 0x1380, 0xd341, 0x1100, 0xd1c1, 0xd081, 0x1040,
0xf001, 0x30c0, 0x3180, 0xf141, 0x3300, 0xf3c1, 0xf281, 0x3240,
0x3600, 0xf6c1, 0xf781, 0x3740, 0xf501, 0x35c0, 0x3480, 0xf441,
0x3c00, 0xfcc1, 0xfd81, 0x3d40, 0xff01, 0x3fc0, 0x3e80, 0xfe41,
0xfa01, 0x3ac0, 0x3b80, 0xfb41, 0x3900, 0xf9c1, 0xf881, 0x3840,
0x2800, 0xe8c1, 0xe981, 0x2940, 0xeb01, 0x2bc0, 0x2a80, 0xea41,
0xee01, 0x2ec0, 0x2f80, 0xef41, 0x2d00, 0xedc1, 0xec81, 0x2c40,
0xe401, 0x24c0, 0x2580, 0xe541, 0x2700, 0xe7c1, 0xe681, 0x2640,
0x2200, 0xe2c1, 0xe381, 0x2340, 0xe101, 0xe1c0, 0x2080, 0xe041,
0xa001, 0x60c0, 0x6180, 0xa141, 0x6300, 0xa3c1, 0xa281, 0x6240,
0x6600, 0xa6c1, 0xa781, 0x6740, 0xa501, 0x65c0, 0x6480, 0xa441,
0x6c00, 0xacc1, 0xad81, 0x6d40, 0xaf01, 0x6fc0, 0x6e80, 0xae41,
0xaa01, 0x6ac0, 0x6b80, 0xab41, 0x6900, 0xa9c1, 0xa881, 0x6840,
0x7800, 0xb8c1, 0xb981, 0x7940, 0xbb01, 0x7bc0, 0x7a80, 0xba41,
0xbe01, 0x7ec0, 0x7f80, 0xbf41, 0x7d00, 0xbdc1, 0xbc81, 0x7c40,
0xb401, 0x74c0, 0x7580, 0xb541, 0x7700, 0xb7c1, 0xb681, 0x7640,
0x7200, 0xb2c1, 0xb381, 0x7340, 0xb101, 0x71c0, 0x7080, 0xb041,
0x5000, 0x90c1, 0x9181, 0x5140, 0x9301, 0x53c0, 0x5280, 0x9241,
0x9601, 0x56c0, 0x5780, 0x9741, 0x5500, 0x95c1, 0x9481, 0x5440,
0x9c01, 0x5cc0, 0x5d80, 0x9d41, 0x5f00, 0x9fc1, 0x9e81, 0x5e40,
0x5a00, 0x9ac1, 0x9b81, 0x5b40, 0x9901, 0x59c0, 0x5880, 0x9841,
0x8801, 0x48c0, 0x4980, 0x8941, 0x4b00, 0x8bc1, 0x8a81, 0x4a40,
0x4e00, 0x8ec1, 0x8f81, 0x4f40, 0x8d01, 0x4dc0, 0x4c80, 0x8c41,
0x4400, 0x84c1, 0x8581, 0x4540, 0x8701, 0x47c0, 0x4680, 0x8641,
0x8201, 0x42c0, 0x4380, 0x8341, 0x4100, 0x81c1, 0x8081, 0x4040
};

int crc;

crc = 0;
while (--n >= 0)
    crc = ((crc >> 8) & 0xff) ^ crc_table[(crc ^ *buf++) & 0xff];

return
crc;
}

/*-----*/

Saving of the Table requires 512 Bytes. If the EPROM in the TNC should
be too full for the saving of this Table, so it can be constructed as
follows for the
Runtime:

/*-----*/

unsigned short Table[256];
const int Rest[8] = { 0xC0C1, 0xC181, 0xC301, 0xC601, 0xCC01, 0xD801,
                     0xF001, 0xA001 };
main()
{
    int i, j;
    unsigned short value;

    for (i = 0; i < 256; i++) {
        value = 0;
        for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
            if (i & (1 << j))
                value ^= Rest[j];
        Table[i] = value;
    }
}

/*-----*/

If this Algorithm is to be coded in Assembler, so it requires distinctly
less space than the Saving of the Table itself.
The Theory is to be found again in [2].

```

## 5. Implementation

Previously this Protocol has been implemented in the following Systems:

- WAMPES
- SMACK, Version 1.3. This Software has been developed further by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE, from TNC2-KISS-Implementation written by K3MC. It will be installed especially in the TNCs of the WAMPES-NODES DB0ID (Digipeater Stuttgart) and DB0SAO (Mailbox Stuttgart) there it contains also, individual WAMPES-specific adaptations. - In the KISS of the NORD<>LINK-Firmware, from TheFirmware Version 2.4 - For the TCP/IP-Software NOS it gives from Thommy Osterried, DL9SAU, a 'a rundown', of the NOS developed from the SMACK-capabilities.

## 7. Outlook

A desirable Implementation of this Protocol would be especially, a Packet-Driver from the 'Packet driver specification' [3]. With it would be given an uninhibited possibility for all existing NET- and NOS-Versions without alteration of the Source Codes. But also every other Packet-Radio-Software, that installs the KISS-TNCs could profit from the Error Protection of the CRC.

This Protocol Description has a preliminary Character. The Authors (dl5ue@db0sao, dk5sg@db0sao) are thankful for Improvement recommendations,

Advice on Error or other Comments.

(\*) WAMPES = Wrttemberg Amateurradio  
Multi-Protocol-Experimental-Software.  
A software packet under UNIX, that implements multiple Protocols from AX.25-, TCP/IP and NET/ROM-Protocol Families and, will be installed mainly in the Stuttgart Area, as Net Nodes. Compare [4].

## Literature

- [1] Karn, Phil, KA9Q; Proposed "Raw" TNC Functional Spec, 6.8.1986; published in the USENET-News;
- [2] Rhner, Michael, DC40X; Was ist CRC?; distributed in the Packet-Radio Mailbox-Net, May 1988
- [3] FTP Software, Inc.; PC/TCP Version 1.09 Packet Driver Specification; Wakefield, MA 1989
- [4] Schiefer, Jan, DL5UE; WAMPES - Weiterentwicklung; Vortrags-Skriptum des 5. berregionalen Packet-Radio-Treffens; Frankfurt 1989;

Translation by G0KIU

---

## 11. Smack Protocol Description

From: Marco Savegnago <MC2365@mclink.it>  
Date: Tue, 30 May 95 13:22:44 CEST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9505301322.aa29236@ax433.mclink.it>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

SMACK - Protocol Description  
-----

Version 1.0, Dated 27.02.92

by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE and Dieter Deyke, DK5SG/N0PRA

### 1. Introduction

The end of 1990 was the first time that the Stuttgart Packet-Radio-Amateurs thought about the factual certainty of Data Security between TNC and WAMPES(\*)- Node Computer. Already with other Packet-Node Systems Data losses had appeared, we considered which sort and in what manner a compatible development of the KISS-Protocols with a Checksum could be considered possible. From the Result of this consideration came the name SMACK (Stuttgart Modified Amateur radio CRC-KISS. This Document should explain

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TNC are basically, only the Access Control of the Frequency (Channel-Busy-Recognition, P-Persistence-Action) and the conversion of the synchronous HDLC-Data on the PR-Channel into the asynchronous Format of the RS232-Port.

The KISS-Protocol regulates the demarcation of individual Packets with Delimiters, the eventual handling in the Data Stream of the appearing Delimiter and defines a simple Command structure for the installation of TNC-Parameters. Also, it has met the provision, to be able to operate TNCs

with more Packet-Channels.

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The Host Computer communicates with KISS in the Form of Packets. The beginning of such a Packet will be recognised through the FEND. Then follows the so called Command Byte. It issues, whether it is handling Data- or a Command Packet and what Command is meant. With one exception (Reset-Command = 255) all Commands employ only the lower 4 Bits of this Command Byte. This means, that the upper 4 Bits with Multi-Channel-TNCs can issue the Channel. So 16 Channels can be given Parameters individually.

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With such Packets, the Checksum will be attached at the End of the Frame, and the lower value Byte first. Both of the following illustrations show the layout of a Data Packet once with and once without Checksum.

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x00 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
KISS-Frame without Checksum
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| FEND | 0x80 | DATA | DATA | ... | DATA | CRC LOW | CRC HIGH | FEND |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
Smack-Frame with Checksum
```

It should be once again reiterated here, that only Data Packets will be CRC-secured. With that it will be prevented, that a Command can be sent to

the TNC, when themselves Host and TNC with CRC/not CRC are in disagreement.

## 4. Switching from KISS onto SMACK

A SMACK-TNC works after switching into the KISS-Modus, therefore generates no Checksum. As soon as the first Packet is received with CRC, it switches

its Send Routines likewise to CRC. This Operation condition can be abandoned only through a Reset. The Host behaves analogously. If however a KISS-TNC is connected, so CRC-Frames from the Host by reason of their unknown Command Byte will be discarded and working continued.

This Method has the advantage, that both KISS- as also SMACK-TNCs can be

operated alternately to a Host; without that, a reconfiguration is necessary. That should be illustrated by a Display of both cases.

#### ----- Case 1: KISS-TNC

|                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Host</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender on Normal-KISS again.</li> <li>- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.</li> </ul> | <p>TNC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receives a frame which for it is an unknown Command-byte 0x80 and abandons it.</li> <li>- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.</li> </ul> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### ----- Fall 2: SMACK-TNC

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Host</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sends an individual Packet with CRC, then switches its Sender onto Normal-KISS again.</li> <li>- Dispatches KISS-Data without Checksum.</li> <li>- Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.</li> <li>- Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.</li> </ul> | <p>TNC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receives a Frame with CRC-Recognition, switches its Sender on CRC.</li> <li>- TNC sends the first Frame with CRC.</li> <li>- Dispatches SMACK-Data with Checksum.</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

-----  
Dependent upon Send condition (CRC/not CRC) the received Frames will always be handled as follows:

| Receiver Frame             | Action                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
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| With CRC, Correct Checksum | Frame progressed further |
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This Protocol sets in advance, that a KISS-Implementation abandons its unknown Frame. This will be promoted in the KISS-Specification [1].

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The CRCs logically belong therefore, to the KISS Layer.

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Different Algorithms for the CRC-Generator will be described in [2].

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n  
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        0x1e00, 0xdec1, 0xdf81, 0x1f40, 0xdd01, 0x1dc0, 0x1c80, 0xdc41,
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        0xfa01, 0x3ac0, 0x3b80, 0xfb41, 0x3900, 0xf9c1, 0xf881, 0x3840,
        0x2800, 0xe8c1, 0xe981, 0x2940, 0xeb01, 0x2bc0, 0x2a80, 0xea41,
        0xee01, 0x2ec0, 0x2f80, 0xef41, 0x2d00, 0xedc1, 0xec81, 0x2c40,
        0xe401, 0x24c0, 0x2580, 0xe541, 0x2700, 0xe7c1, 0xe681, 0x2640,
        0x2200, 0xe2c1, 0xe381, 0x2340, 0xe101, 0x21c0, 0x2080, 0xe041,
        0xa001, 0x60c0, 0x6180, 0xa141, 0x6300, 0xa3c1, 0xa281, 0x6240,
        0x6600, 0xa6c1, 0xa781, 0x6740, 0xa501, 0xa5c0, 0xa480, 0xa441,
        0x5400, 0x54c0, 0x5580, 0x5540, 0x5600, 0x56c0, 0x5780, 0x5740,
        0x7800, 0xb8c1, 0xb981, 0x7940, 0xbb01, 0x7bc0, 0x7a80, 0xba41,
        0xbe01, 0x7ec0, 0x7f80, 0xbf41, 0x7d00, 0xbdc1, 0xbc80, 0x7c40,
        0xb401, 0x74c0, 0x7580, 0xb541, 0x7700, 0xb7c1, 0xb680, 0x7640,
        0x7200, 0xb2c1, 0xb381, 0x7340, 0xb101, 0x71c0, 0x7080, 0xb041,
        0x5000, 0x90c1, 0x9181, 0x5140, 0x9301, 0x93c0, 0x9280, 0x9241,
        0x9601, 0x56c0, 0x5780, 0x9741, 0x9500, 0x95c1, 0x9480, 0x9440,
        0x9c01, 0x5cc0, 0x5d80, 0x9d41, 0x9f00, 0x9fc1, 0x9e80, 0x9e40,
        0x9a00, 0x9ac1, 0x9b81, 0x9b40, 0x9901, 0x99c0, 0x9880, 0x9841,
        0x8801, 0x48c0, 0x4980, 0x8941, 0x4b00, 0x4bc1, 0x4a80, 0x4a40,
        0x4e00, 0x8ec1, 0x8f81, 0x4f40, 0x8d01, 0x4dc0, 0x4c80, 0x8c41,
        0x4400, 0x84c1, 0x8581, 0x4540, 0x8701, 0x47c0, 0x4680, 0x8641,
        0x8201, 0x42c0, 0x4380, 0x8341, 0x4100, 0x81c1, 0x8080, 0x4040
    };

    int  crc;
```

```

    crc = 0;
    while (--n >= 0)
        crc = ((crc >> 8) & 0xff) ^ crc_table[(crc ^ *buf++) & 0xff];

return
crc;
}

/*-----*/

Saving of the Table requires 512 Bytes. If the EPROM in the TNC should
be too full for the saving of this Table, so it can be constructed as
follows for the
Runtime:

/*-----*/

unsigned short Table[256];
const int Rest[8] = { 0xC0C1, 0xC181, 0xC301, 0xC601, 0xCC01, 0xD801,
                     0xF001, 0xA001 };
main()
{
    int i, j;
    unsigned short value;

    for (i = 0; i < 256; i++) {
        value = 0;
        for (j = 0; j < 8; j++)
            if (i & (1 << j))
                value ^= Rest[j];
        Table[i] = value;
    }
}

/*-----*/

If this Algorithm is to be coded in Assembler, so it requires distinctly
less space than the Saving of the Table itself.
The Theory is to be found again in [2].

```

## 5. Implementation

Previously this Protocol has been implemented in the following Systems:

- WAMPES
- SMACK, Version 1.3. This Software has been developed further by Jan Schiefer, DL5UE, from TNC2-KISS-Implementation written by K3MC. It will be installed especially in the TNCs of the WAMPES-NODES DB0ID (Digipeater Stuttgart) and DB0SAO (Mailbox Stuttgart) there it contains also, individual WAMPES-specific adaptations. - In the KISS of the NORD<>LINK-Firmware, from TheFirmware Version 2.4 - For the TCP/IP-Software NOS it gives from Thommy Osterried, DL9SAU, a 'a rundown', of the NOS developed from the SMACK-capabilities.

## 7. Outlook

A desirable Implementation of this Protocol would be especially, a Packet-Driver from the 'Packet driver specification' [3]. With it would be given an uninhibited possibility for all existing NET- and NOS-Versions without alteration of the Source Codes. But also every other Packet-Radio-Software, that installs the KISS-TNCs could profit from the Error Protection of the CRC.

This Protocol Description has a preliminary Character. The Authors (dl5ue@db0sao, dk5sg@db0sao) are thankful for Improvement recommendations,

Advice on Error or other Comments.

(\*) WAMPES = Wrttemberg Amateurradio

AX.25-, TCP/IP and NET/ROM-Protocol Families and, will be installed mainly in the Stuttgart Area, as Net Nodes. Compare [4].

- [1] Karn, Phil, KA9Q; Proposed "Raw" TNC Functional Spec, 6.8.1986; published in the USENET-News;
- [2] Rhner, Michael, DC40X; Was ist CRC?; distributed in the Packet-Radio Mailbox-Net, May 1988
- [3] FTP Software, Inc.; PC/TCP Version 1.09 Packet Driver Specification; Wakefield, MA 1989
- [4] Schiefer, Jan, DL5UE; WAMPES - Weiterentwicklung; Vortrags-Skriptum des 5. berregionalen Packet-Radio-Treffens; Frankfurt 1989;

## 12. Re: [BBSSIG:988] Smack Protocol Description

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

```
*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
```



```

* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM      Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet      *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C            Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12    *
*                                     *                                     *
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory                    *
*                                     *                                     *
*****

```

#### 14. Re: [BBSSIG:990] Re: Smack Protocol Description

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Mon, 12 Jun 1995 18:04:54 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199506122304.SAA28514@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl,

Well you're the BPQ expert. Tell us all about it! hihi

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
 barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

#### 15. jnos link with Linux wht TERM do i use on my Linux ??

From: Hubert.RIERA@haillan.sep-haillan.fr  
 Date: Thu, 22 Jun 1995 07:54:00 +0100  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <9506220654.AA10273@haillan.sep-haillan.fr>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

PASSWORD 802954927

Bonjour ,

I have some link to my Linux site on packet , but try to find the emulation term to use on it .

the probleme is whith Jnos link (tcp/ip) with telnet on it i just can do tty or dump terminal emulation like vt52

but i would like to use some think like VT100 or VT220 to have some full screen on it ( by example for vi ).

may be some one have doing it before ?????

So from here i do use an http bbs on my Linux site

does some OM use an W.W.W. bbs type on packet also ????

73 de F5LCT

packet f5LCT@f6kpw.faqui.fra

tcp/ip 44.151.33.08

Email f5lct@sep-haillan.fr

#### 16. Re: [BBSSIG:992] jnos link with Linux wht TERM do i use on my Linux ?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Fri, 23 Jun 1995 08:37:20 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199506231337.IAA13607@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

>

> Bonjour ,

> I have some link to my Linux site on packet , but try to find the emulation term to use on it .

> the probleme is whith Jnos link (tcp/ip) with telnet on it

> i just can do tty or dump terminal emulation like vt52

> but i would like to use some think like VT100 or VT220 to

> have some full screen on it ( by example for vi ).

We haven't heard too much from the Linux activists here on the BBSSIG.

You might try posting this terminal question to one of the Linux groups.

--- to Brian L. Is there an official keeper of the holy jnos  
 --- for Linux?

> may be some one have doing it before ?????

> So from here i do use an http bbs on my Linux site

> does some OM use an W.W.W. bbs type on packet also ????

I'm aware of 2 BBSs written for Linux and would like to hear more about them. Can someone post info on FAQs or ftp sites for Linux BBS programs?

> 73 de F5LCT  
> packet f5LCT@f6kpw.faqi.fra  
> tcp/ip 44.151.33.08  
> Email f5lct@sep-haillan.fr  
>

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 17. more on Linux

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 23 Jun 1995 17:47:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199506232247.RAA16169@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At St Loius and Dayton, I asked for a show of hands from the audience to try and gauge if Sysops are heading away from DOS and into either OS/2 or Linux. (I didn't ask about windoze). The idea was to see which multitasking OS they preferred.

This straw poll indicated that many more Sysops saw OS/2 in their future. Not surprising since 99.9% of all packet BBS are running under DOS now. The mainstream of DOS users will continue to stay with off the shelf OS. Linux seems to be for the hackers.

I've been playing with Linux for about a year, but I had one of the local gurus install it for me. At Dayton, I bought the Slackware 2 CDROM set. I have a new laptop and wanted to install Linux so I tried it myself.

Cutting a long story short, I used FIPS to modify the existing partition on the harddisk with NO loss of data. Making new partitions was always a pain when installing Linux. Now its painless.

The Slackware install is rather straight forward and not all that complex. If you have any sense of adventure and would like to try Linux, I suggest you give it a go.

If there are any Linux BBS users out there, would you take a few minutes and tell us about your systems.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 18. Re: [BBSSIG:993] Re: jnos link with Linux wht TERM do i use on my Linux ?

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sat, 24 Jun 1995 09:16:56 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506240918.b20712-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 23 Jun 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> >  
> > Bonjour ,  
> > I have some link to my Linux site on packet , but try to find  
> > the emulation term to use on it .  
> > the probleme is whith Jnos link (tcp/ip) with telnet on it  
> > i just can do tty or dump terminal emulation like vt52  
> > but i would like to use some think like VT100 or VT220 to  
> > have some full screen on it ( by example for vi ).

You need to set your 'TERM' variable to 'console' to make full use of the curses features under [J]T[N]OS/Linux....

> We haven't heard too much from the Linux activists here on the BBSSIG.  
> You might try posting this terminal question to one of the Linux  
> groups.

Or one of the xNOS specific mailing lists.....

> --- to Brian L. Is there an official keeper of the holy jnos  
> --- for Linux?  
>

JNOS/Linux is based on \*much\* older JNOS code, and was ported/maintained by Brandon (bsa@kf8nh.wariat.org).

> I'm aware of 2 BBSs written for Linux and would like to hear more about  
> them. Can someone post info on FAQs or ftp sites for Linux BBS programs?

Both JNOS/Linux and TNOS/Linux can be found at ftp.ucsd.edu.

TNOS/Linux can also be found at:

mwmicro.com in /pub/linux/tnos/current/linux  
sunsite.unc.edu in /pub/Linux/apps/ham  
ftp.lantz.com in /tnos/current/linux

There is no JNOS/Linux FAQ. The first rev of the TNOS FAQ is almost complete. There is a lot of information about TNOS (DOS and Linux) on

<http://www.lantz.com>

including installation notes, features updated from one version to another, and the active document of features going into the next release, along with known bugs, and my TODO list.

Sorry for the off-subject bandwidth. I wasn't going to interject it here, but I \*was\* asked, so it would have been rude to NOT respond...

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available)    {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 19. Re: [BBSSIG:994] more on Linux

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sat, 24 Jun 1995 09:30:42 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506240955.c20712-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 23 Jun 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> If there are any Linux BBS users out there, would you take a few  
> minutes and tell us about your systems.

Once again, you \*asked\* ;-) )

I will make statements that apply to JNOS/Linux and TNOS/Linux, and avoid any TNOS-specific features.

If you are using xNOS under DOS, you continually have to deal with the balance of what (and how many) features you compile in vs how much conventional memory you leave available. No matter how well you balance it, there is ALWAYS a feature or two you WISH you had, or need at one time or another.

Well, every TNOS/Linux (or I should say TNOS/Unix, since it is running

under other Unix variants than JUST Linux) can have ALL non-DOS-specific features, in fact the TNOS/Linux distribution executable DOES have all non-DOS-specific features included.

Under DOS, you must be careful if using Netrom, because if memory is low, and there are many nodes broadcast to you, it can make memory lower. Under Linux, this is not a problem. Currently I have 408 nodes listed, and these are all ones heard in the last few hours.

Also under DOS, AXIP links (AX25 encapsulated inside IP frames) were only used on occasion, since memory is used in routing these interfaces, and if memory is low, this can make a xNOS/Dos system unstable. Well, no problem with Linux. I currently have 31 AXIP links, and no problems.

Uptime is nearly infinite, since almost ALL xNOS/Dos related crashes have memory at their roots.

And TNOS/Linux typically uses between 0.0 and 0.8 percent of the CPU for a highly responsive system. This is just ONE of many things ALWAYS going on with my system. A DOS system running xNOS is CONSTANTLY wasting about 99% of the CPU's time, which COULD be used for other things.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 20. Re: more on Linux

From: Jeffrey Austen <[JRA1854@tnitech.edu](mailto:JRA1854@tnitech.edu)>  
Date: Sat, 24 Jun 1995 08:42:44 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <01HS2T0SR13KHXY9@tnitech.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> If there are any Linux BBS users out there, would you take a few  
> minutes and tell us about your systems.

Several of us in middle Tennessee run systems using JNOS/Linux on Linux. We like it. One of the stations is an Internet gateway. One does not need a "big" computer to run it: my system is a 386SX with 4 MB RAM and about 300 MB disk (I used to run it on a 100 MB disk) and I have had no problems. Over a period of almost two years the system has been quite stable and most crashes were due to the power company, not the software. The nice thing about Linux is that it can multitask: while the packet BBS is running I can run a landline BBS, work on a program, and recompile the kernel all at the same time (things will slow down, of course, but nobody but I will notice it).

A few words of caution: Linux is a moving target. The 1.3.x kernel series is now under development and is both unstable and changing rapidly. The 1.2.10 kernel is the latest stable kernel but is not yet available on the Slackware CD-ROM. I found myself spending quite a bit of time chasing kernel revisions on another system I'm putting together for a digipeater site (which still isn't done). My packet BBS is still running on 1.0.9 which was the last stable version from about a year ago. Pick a stable version (probably 1.2.10), buy the CD-ROM (it's a lot easier than 75 floppy disks!) and plan to stick with it for a while.

Jeff, k9ja  
+--+  
Jeffrey Austen      | Tennessee Technological University  
[jra1854@tnitech.edu](mailto:jra1854@tnitech.edu) | Box 5004  
(615) 372-3485      | Cookeville Tennessee 38505    U.S.A.

---

## 21. Re: [BBSSIG:997] Re: more on Linux

From: [dbashaw@BayNetworks.COM](mailto:dbashaw@BayNetworks.COM) (David Bashaw)  
Date: Mon, 26 Jun 95 07:59:23 PDT  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <9506261459.AA00437@rimbaud.synoptics.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

My only complaint about \*nix's is that I can't run the old DOS utils I came to know and hate. I guess I shall have to try a dos emulator (Yuck). But I still prefer public domain Linux to DOS. X-windows is very nice also.

Dave  
WA6QWL

---

## 22. Re: [BBSSIG:994] more on Linux

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Mon, 26 Jun 95 10:19:14 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9506261019.ZM3876@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jun 23, 6:03pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:994] more on Linux  
>  
> At St Loius and Dayton, I asked for a show of hands from the audience to  
> try and gauge if Sysops are heading away from DOS and into either  
> OS/2 or Linux. (I didn't ask about windoze). The idea was to see  
> which multitasking OS they preferred.

Let me try and understand this. Windows and DESQview were not on the list of expected multi-tasking environments, even though they will be (and are now) the majority choice. It is pretty clear that MOST computers in the world run Windows now, and will run Windows 95 and Windows NT in the near future.

> This straw poll indicated that many more Sysops saw OS/2 in their  
> future. Not surprising since 99.9% of all packet BBS are running  
> under DOS now. The mainstream of DOS users will continue to  
> stay with off the shelf OS. Linux seems to be for the hackers.

I dispute your statistic. Perhaps as high as 70% but I doubt higher.

For example, of my three machines, one runs DESQview, one runs WFW, and one runs DOS. The DOS box runs NOS and is "just an IP router."

<Linux stuff deleted>

Folks, if we want to help move the hobby forward, our focus must be windows / wfw / win95 / winnt. These are the operating systems the VAST majority of machines will be running. Our applications need to run on those operating systems. Oh yes, there will be a few Macs, a few C-128s, a few antique Amigas, a few \*nix systems, a CP/M machine or two, the occasional Psion or NEC, but in the main it WILL BE a "Windows World" out there.

Don't bother with any "My OS is better than your OS responses". I did not (repeat DID NOT) make any claims about the goodness or badness of the situation. Just pointing out that if we want to move the hobby forward, we need to target machines running Windows.

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

## 23. Re: [BBSSIG:998] Re: more on Linux

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Mon, 26 Jun 1995 18:20:33 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506261830.i4865-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 26 Jun 1995, David Bashaw wrote:

>  
> My only complaint about \*nix's is that I can't run the old  
> DOS utils I came to know and hate. I guess I shall have to try a  
> dos emulator (Yuck). But I still prefer public domain Linux  
> to DOS. X-windows is very nice also.  
>

> Dave  
> WA6QWL

Don't avoid all emulators! The DOS Emulator for Linux (DOSEMU) runs NEARLY all DOS apps, and even runs Windows. \*BUT\* it actually runs SOME things \*BETTER\* than 'real' DOS. My TNOS/DOS compiles take about 1/2 the time, due to the efficiency of the Linux filesystem over the DOS filesystem by itself.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available)    {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 24. Re: [BBSSIG:999] Re: more on Linux

From: Bob Wilkins <[rwilkins@ccnet.com](mailto:rwilkins@ccnet.com)>  
Date: Mon, 26 Jun 1995 16:49:32 -0700 (PDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506261641.A18526-0100000@ccnet3>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 26 Jun 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> Folks, if we want to help move the hobby forward, our focus must be  
> windows / wfw / win95 / winnt. These are the operating systems  
> the VAST majority of machines will be running. Our applications  
> need to run on those operating systems. Oh yes, there will be a  
> few Macs, a few C-128s, a few antique Amigas, a few \*nix systems,  
> a CP/M machine or two, the occasional Psion or NEC, but in the main  
> it WILL BE a "Windows World" out there.

OK I agree! When are the bbs software writers going to think of the bbs as a network server? The system is way too primitive now to hold the attention of any Windoz user today. Why force the bbs server to run in a non tasking environment? The vast majority of bbs servers could run on the \*nix platform if the fellows could get the support. Any kid with time on his hands can set up a bbs with foewarding backbone to his neighbor today. It is plug and play. If we are to move the hobby forward we will need to provide more service to the growing user base with out using more spectrum or requiring the user to use arcane dos commands.

> Don't bother with any "My OS is better than your OS responses".  
> I did not (repeat DID NOT) make any claims about the goodness or  
> badness of the situation. Just pointing out that if we want to  
> move the hobby forward, we need to target machines running Windows.

I would hope you could provide a better dns service. White Pages eats up a lot of air time. Lets migrate to the easiest stable network multi-tasking platform for the bbs servers and design a super Windows user client.

If you think the bbs servers as well as their network should reside on a Win-NT server, you are asking bbs sysops to do some serious upgrades to their hardware. There may be a more economical solution using \*nix and all the tools available today.

Lets offload some of the heavy processing onto the Win95 user client. Look at the way folks use Netscape or Mosaic to interact with the Internet. Clients like www or lynx work well for the folks using a text based interface.

Oh ... when will Bbs95 arrive on the shelf?

|                      |      |                                                                                    |
|----------------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bob Wilkins          | work | <a href="mailto:bwilkins@cave.org">bwilkins@cave.org</a>                           |
| Berkeley, California | home | <a href="mailto:rwilkins@ccnet.com">rwilkins@ccnet.com</a>                         |
| 94701-0710           | play | <a href="mailto:n6fri@n6eeg.#nocal.ca.usa.noam">n6fri@n6eeg.#nocal.ca.usa.noam</a> |

---

## 25. Re: [BBSSIG:1001] Re: more on Linux

From: [hank@cospc.com](mailto:hank@cospc.com) (Hank Pustarfi)  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 09:04:06 -0400 (EDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <[m0sQaJE-0005UdC@bonzai.cospc.com](mailto:m0sQaJE-0005UdC@bonzai.cospc.com)>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 26 Jun 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

```
>__ Folks, if we want to help move the hobby forward, our focus must be
>__ windows / wfw / win95 / winnt. These are the operating systems
>__ the VAST majority of machines will be running. Our applications
>__ need to run on those operating systems. Oh yes, there will be a
>__ few Macs, a few C-128s, a few antique Amigas, a few *nix systems,
>__ a CP/M machine or two, the occasional Psion or NEC, but in the main
>__ it WILL BE a "Windows World" out there.
```

Oh and let me add;

```
win95 is the multi-tasking OS that;
  is the most reliable
  is the lowest cost
  has available now a large selection of proven low/no cost utilities
  will use the largest selection of now in used hardware
  I need to know nothing OS; a NO-brainer
  now has networking software that is for the most part bug-free
  compiles with a well known and published set of standards
  already has a good deal of ax25/netrom/ip/bbs software support
```

Do I hear a bit of the NIH syndrome?

Hummm :-)

---

## 26. Re: [BBSSIG:1001] Re: more on Linux

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)

Date: Tue, 27 Jun 95 10:13:37 PDT

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <9506271013.ZM6266@hanko>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jun 26, 6:56pm, Bob Wilkins wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1001] Re: more on Linux

> On Mon, 26 Jun 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

>

```
>> Folks, if we want to help move the hobby forward, our focus must be
>> windows / wfw / win95 / winnt. These are the operating systems
>> the VAST majority of machines will be running. Our applications
>> need to run on those operating systems. Oh yes, there will be a
>> few Macs, a few C-128s, a few antique Amigas, a few *nix systems,
>> a CP/M machine or two, the occasional Psion or NEC, but in the main
>> it WILL BE a "Windows World" out there.
```

>

```
> OK I agree! When are the bbs software writers going to think of the bbs as
> a network server? The system is way too primitive now to hold the
> attention of any Windoz user today. Why force the bbs server to run in a
> non tasking environment? The vast majority of bbs servers could run on the
> *nix platform if the fellows could get the support. Any kid with time on
> his hands can set up a bbs with foewarding backbone to his neighbor today.
> It is plug and play. If we are to move the hobby forward we will need to
> provide more service to the growing user base with out using more spectrum
> or requiring the user to use arcane dos commands.
```

I'm still confused by the above comments. Perhaps you can clarify what you mean by your comments. I see a bbs exactly as a network server. The bbs I run REQUIRES a preemptive multitasking environment. But I would not port the code to \*nix, as the market for it is just not there.

```
>> Don't bother with any "My OS is better than your OS responses".
>> I did not (repeat DID NOT) make any claims about the goodness or
>> badness of the situation. Just pointing out that if we want to
>> move the hobby forward, we need to target machines running Windows.
```

>

```
> I would hope you could provide a better dns service. White Pages eats up
> a lot of air time. Lets migrate to the easiest stable network multi-tasking
> platform for the bbs servers and design a super Windows user client.
```

What would you suggest for DNS services? i.e. what are the requirements?

```
> If you think the bbs servers as well as their network should reside on a
> Win-NT server, you are asking bbs sysops to do some serious upgrades to
> their hardware. There may be a more economical solution using *nix and all
> the tools available today.
```

I did not suggest Win-NT. WFW works just fine, as does Win95.

The tools are not available on \*nix - I know, as I do this stuff for a living - and am in the process of moving a group of developers OFF of \*nix and ON to WFW/Win95/WinNT so they will have access to good tools. The reason has nothing to do with the OS, it has to do with availability and cost of tools. They are available on Win\* and unavailable on \*nix.

> Lets offload some of the heavy processing onto the Win95 user client.  
> Look at the way folks use Netscape or Mosaic to interact with the Internet.  
> Clients like www or lynx work well for the folks using a text based  
> interface.

Yes, I know. I have the Mosaic httpd server running on the air now. Works fine - but slowly - over our 9600 baud network. At 1200 baud it is totally useless. But it DOES work over the ham radio network.

However, setting it up is a real mess, and requires a minimum of two computers at the server site. We need to fix this ...

>  
> Oh ... when will Bbs95 arrive on the shelf?

Tell me how much you are willing to pay for it and how many I can sell at that price, and I'll give you a delivery schedule.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

## 27. RE: [BBSSIG:1002] Re: more on Linux

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 95 13:31:00 PDT  
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <2FF06930@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Never looked to bbssig for humor but it's getting there...

>On Mon, 26 Jun 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:  
>  
>> \_\_ Folks, if we want to help move the hobby forward, our focus must be  
>> \_\_ windows / wfw / win95 / winnt. These are the operating systems  
>> \_\_ the VAST majority of machines will be running. Our applications  
>> \_\_ need to run on those operating systems. Oh yes, there will be a  
>> \_\_ few Macs, a few C-128s, a few antique Amigas, a few \*nix systems,  
>> \_\_ a CP/M machine or two, the occasional Psion or NEC, but in the main  
>> \_\_ it WILL BE a "Windows World" out there.  
>

>  
>Oh and let me add;  
>  
> win95 is the mullti-tasking OS that;  
> is the most reliable

By whose standards? This win9? is going to be more stable than the WFWG product that I'm forced to use here at work and needs to be restarted several times during the workday to get around all the memory fragmentation problems that it has??? Meanwhile, my systems with OS/2 and Linux, both run days, weeks, and months without restarts being necessary. Even my Mac gives less trouble than Windows.

> is the lowest cost

OS/2 and Linux are both cheaper...

> has available now a large selection of proven low/no cost  
>utilities

I would dare say Linux has 100 times over as many utilities available...

> will use the largest selection of now in used hardware



Yes, but who wants to support all the BAD hardware?

> I need to know nothing OS; a NO-brainer

Go back to DOS, Windows isn't there yet...

> now has networking software that is for the most part bug-free  
> compiles with a well known and published set of standards

>From my experience, it's easily upset, but I'm not your average user!

> already has a good deal of ax25/netrom/ip/bbs software support

Native Windows versions? Where?

>

>Do I hear a bit of the NIH syndrome?  
>Hummm :-)

No, it's more like been there, done that, don't ever want to do that again if I don't have to... It's really a shame that Microsoft didn't spend the time to make a real user version out of NT because they would have a much more serious competitor. An operating system has to be reliable above all else, if not it's costing someone time and money.

73  
Mike N4CNW

---

## 28. Re: [BBSSIG:1004] Re: more on Linux

From: hank@cospc.com (Hank Pustarfi)  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 16:26:49 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sQhDe-0005UdC@bonzai.cospc.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Mike;

Liven up!!! I guess you did not get my smiley, tongue in cheek comment?

I have been running net under \*nix since about 1987 and net then nNOS under linux since 1/93 when I put the dear old 3b2/400 to bed. This is in support of a five port hub, a bbs and internet services.

I can understand users not wanting to learn a new OS. I have worked with many people that would not change starting back in the PDP8 days. Sooner or later they just get left behind. Face it we still have AM only operators.

I would like to hear more about what others have been doing with multi-tasking OS's.

73 Hank K3WGV

>\_\_ No, it's more like been there, done that, don't ever want to do that  
>\_\_ again if I don't have to... It's really a shame that Microsoft didn't  
>\_\_ spend the time to make a real user version out of NT because they  
>\_\_ would have a much more serious competitor. An operating system  
>\_\_ has to be reliable above all else, if not it's costing someone time  
>\_\_ and money.

Hank Pustarfi                      k3wgv@k3wgv.ampr.org                      hank@cospc.com

"It is always the adventurers who accomplish great things." -- Montesquieu

---

## 29. Re: [BBSSIG:1003] Re: more on Linux

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 16:39:25 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506271647.x4865-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Gotta agree with Mike, this \*IS\* getting hysterical!

On Tue, 27 Jun 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> I did not suggest Win-NT. WFW works just fine, as does Win95.  
> The tools are not available on \*nix - I know, as I do this stuff for  
> a living - and am in the process of moving a group of developers OFF of  
> \*nix and ON to WFW/Win95/WinNT so they will have access to good tools.  
> The reason has nothing to do with the OS, it has to do with availability  
> and cost of tools. They are available on Win\* and unavailable on \*nix.

Well, I've been involved in xNOS development now for about 4 years. The first three of those years was under DOS. In comparison, the tools available for development under DOS/Windows is like using a shovel for a fork at dinner, compared to what is available for tools under \*ix!

AND, the debugging time is reduced severalfold.

AND, they are available freely, and without cost.

Don't know what tools YOU use Hank, but my experience has shown the exact opposite.

And as Mike pointed out, the Windows (WFW, 95, etc) is NOT a stable platform. I just finished a commercial contract with a development company, about 40 PC's; a Windows environment. For the entire office, from developers to secretaries, they averaged about 2.5 to 3 crashes a day per computer. And this was running Microsoft's own 'best'.

I'll agree with Hank's previous message, that it WILL mainly be a Windows World, though. I'll only 'visit' that world, when needed ;-)

> Yes, I know. I have the Mosaic httpd server running on the air now.  
> Works fine - but slowly - over our 9600 baud network. At 1200 baud  
> it is totally useless. But it DOES work over the ham radio network.  
>  
> However, setting it up is a real mess, and requires a minimum of two  
> computers at the server site. We need to fix this ...

Not if you were running a 'real' multitasking OS! Only takes ONE computer, here..... ;-)

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

### 30. Re: [BBSSIG:1006] Re: more on Linux

From: [hank\\_oredson@MENTORG.COM](mailto:hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM) (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 95 15:32:50 PDT  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <9506271532.ZM6707@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jun 27, 3:55pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
>> Not if you were running a 'real' multitasking OS! Only takes ONE  
> computer, here..... ;-)

Um ... thought the idea was to avoid this OS bigotry here in this newsgroup. Please tell us how those folks running Windows can do this - the fact that I can do it under RSX-11/M has NO bearing on what OS most hams have available to them.

Speaking for myself, I'm looking for ideas ... but my target market DOES run windows, like it or not. They do NOT run RSX-11/M (the only 'real' multitasking OS).

... Hank

--

### 31. Linux, ect

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (charles brabham)  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 18:46:46 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199506272346.SAA06650@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Here's the new guy, throwing his two-cents in..

Linux may be great and all, but let's get real. It's a curiosity among OS's, real nice for hackers to play with, but of little or no use to most BBS SYSOPs.

If you want to use Linux, more power to you. If you figure it's going to replace DOS or WINDOZE for the average SYSOP, you're living in fantasy-land.

It's kind of like TCP/IP for ham radio. It's a hacker's deal. The hackers will puff up and go on about how it's the greatest thing since sliced bread, but that does very little to change the FACTS.

FACTS: Most BBS SYSOPs are doing darn good to master DOS or WINDOZE. A tiny percentage will use other OS's, but us regular folks ( the great majority ) will not be impressed by the latest BBS software for Linux, seeing how they will never run Linux anyway.

Like TCP/IP, it's one of those things that hackers really appreciate, but it will never gain much popularity or be very widely used by the average ham.

I won't argue about how wonderful Linux is.. I'm sure it's great. But it's not likely to be used a lot by BBS SYSOPs.

73 DE Charles Brabham      Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

---

### 32. httpd / mosaic bbs

From: Hubert.RIERA@haillan.sep-haillan.fr  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 08:18:56 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9506280718.AA10445@haillan.sep-haillan.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

PASSWORD 802954927

Bonjour,  
the platform here we use in ax25 tcp/ip is this :  
on the serveur is 2 compatibles :  
an old 286 running jnos with com1 on AX25 and com2 slip  
    he work like a routeur  
    on the slip i have a linux computeur 386 dx 40  
    with running httpd from NCSA and a mail list news ....  
    and an ftp anonymous on it .  
for the client we use 2 systems :  
    on is the with wondows :  
    on is with windows :  
        ethrax25 ( for emulate ether cart to winpkt )  
        winpkt  
        trumpet winsock.dll  
        and telnet,Mosaic,Netscape,ftp,news,win-mail  
    this way works but some timeout and dont like route  
    the other way we use is an old 286 running nos or jnos  
    with one way ax25 the other slip and trumpet slip/winsock.dll  
    and the same other soft upside  
this system work but at 1200 bd is to sloooooooo  
and with Mosaic HTML we don't use gif,xbm only text and url gate a way  
ok, that's our experaince from here , if you doing the same  
bbs on your side please give me ur experience tnx .  
  
> > Don't bother with any "My OS is better than your OS responses".  
> > I did not (repeat DID NOT) make any claims about the goodness or  
> > badness of the situation. Just pointing out that if we want to  
> > move the hobby forward, we need to target machines running Windows.  
>  
> I would hope you could provide a better dns service. White Pages eats up  
> a lot of air time. Lets migrate to the easiest stable network multi-tasking  
> platform for the bbs servers and design a super Windows user client.

for this i do think i just say my experience for the communitiy ....  
73 have good packet

---

### 33. Re: [BBSSIG:1004] Re: more on Linux

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 09:54:37 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950628095213.6339A-100000@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 27 Jun 1995, Murphree Michael A wrote:

> By whose standards? This win9? is going to be more stable than the WFWG  
> product that I'm forced to use here at work and needs to be restarted  
> several  
> times during the workday to get around all the memory fragmentation problems  
> that it has??? Meanwhile, my systems with OS/2 and Linux, both run days,  
> weeks,  
> and months without restarts being necessary. Even my Mac gives less trouble  
> than Windows.

First off: I have windows 95 beta. I have had no problems with it at all.  
One copy is at work, the other is at home.

What are you running that makes it crash?

BTW: I do load my win95 up to the dos prompt for desqview. RLI 18.5  
didn't run very well when I ran desqview under windows 95. It's a  
multitasker under a multitasker = poor multitasking for both.

Other than that, I do see potential for it. Even though I dislike windows.

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg University \*  
\* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlb/ \*\*\*\*\*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

### 34. RE: [BBSSIG:1010] Re: more on Linux

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 95 10:53:00 PDT  
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <2FF1959C@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>First off: I have windows 95 beta. I have had no problems with it at all.  
>One copy is at work, the other is at home.  
>  
>What are you running that makes it crash?

Mostly Microsoft applications... They tend to be the worst. We have the full  
Office  
suite here, i.e. Word, Excel, Powerpoint, MS-Mail and Lotus Notes, Autocad  
LT,  
and a few others. We are using the PC/TCP network stuff, it works better  
than  
the native Windows stuff which has a habit of going brain-dead and no longer  
handling connections. Powerpoint is particularly bad, to the point of not  
coexisting with other applications very well. When memory, resources, etc.  
get  
low in Windows, things just stop working, like printing, without any warning  
or  
explanation. Things work ok as long as Windows 'resources' remain over 60  
percent or so, but really start doing bizarre things below 40 percent.

Anyway, thought for the subject at hand... Modern BBS software should be  
able to support the concept of being "well-connected". If your local RF  
network goes down, then you should be able to redirect through an internet  
or phone connection easily. Nobody enjoys unplanned midnight or weekend  
trips to fix a site. Having an easily reconfigurable path would make our  
lives  
a lot easier.

73  
Mike N4CNW

---

### 35. Re: [BBSSIG:1007] Re: more on Linux

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 11:31:44 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506281116.V4865-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 27 Jun 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Jun 27, 3:55pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
> >> Not if you were running a 'real' multitasking OS! Only takes ONE  
> > computer, here..... ;-)  
>  
> Um ... thought the idea was to avoid this OS bigotry here in this  
> newsgroup.

How is this bigotry? No slur was made toward other OS's with this statement. Just a statement of fact against your statement of needing 2 computers, 1 to run HTTP.

You must be \*wanting\* to read evil into my words ;-) Pretty revealing....

---

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      http://www.lantz.com      brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
    while (memory\_available)      {  
        eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
        if (feel\_like\_it)  
            make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);  
        gates\_bank\_balance++;  
    }

---

### 36. Re: [BBSSIG:1010] Re: more on Linux

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 11:39:59 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506281100.W4865-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 28 Jun 1995, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

> First off: I have windows 95 beta. I have had no problems with it at all.  
> One copy is at work, the other is at home.  
>  
> What are you running that makes it crash?

Don't know about Mike, but.....

My last work contract, the client \*tried\* to use Win95 on four machines, all being used by clerical types, ALL using \*only\* Excel, Word, a couple of custom Visual Basic apps, and the Win95 TCP stack.

Crashes hourly! :-( Using \*only\* Microsoft software (current releases) on Win95 resulted in disaster! After a week of hard effort \*to\* make it work, they were forced to remove it, and reinstall 3.1....

> Other than that, I do see potential for it. Even though I dislike windows.

As Hank started out with this thread, it WILL be the direction the majority of DOS/WINDOWS users go. Most of the rest will stay with Windows.

WHILE, the number of OS/2 users and Linux users are growing daily, Hank is correct, that it WILL be a Windows World, like it or not....

---

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      http://www.lantz.com      brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
    while (memory\_available)      {  
        eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
        if (feel\_like\_it)  
            make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);  
        gates\_bank\_balance++;  
    }

---

### 37. Re: [BBSSIG:1012] Re: more on Linux

```

On Jun 28, 10:30am, Brian A. Lantz wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1012] Re: more on Linux
> On Tue, 27 Jun 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:
>
> > On Jun 27, 3:55pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:
> > > Not if you were running a 'real' multitasking OS! Only takes ONE
> > > computer, here..... ;-)
> >
> > Um ... thought the idea was to avoid this OS bigotry here in this
> > newsgroup.
>
> How is this bigotry? No slur was made toward other OS's with this
> statement. Just a statement of fact against your statement of needing 2
> computers, 1 to run HTTP.
>
> You must be *wanting* to read evil into my words ;-) Pretty revealing....

```

How can you support a full service vhf/HF multi-radio system using modern protocols for all ports? As far as I can make out, it will require two computers to do this. If you are doing it with only one computer, tell us about it: what software do you use for the CLOVER ports? Which callsign databases do you support? How well are ax.25 users served by the switch?

... Hank

— —

Library Operations  
"Parts 'R Us!"

From: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 12:32:54 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@dingus.n5lyt.dataface.com  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950628122821.191A-100000@n2wx.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Howie

— —

hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Thu, 29 Jun 1995 10:33:51 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506291023.k4865-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
> Please reply to the rest of my question:  How do you do it?
>
> How can you support a full service vhf/HF multi-radio system
> using modern protocols for all ports?  As far as I can make out,
> it will require two computers to do this.  If you are doing it
```

> with only one computer, tell us about it: what software do you  
> use for the CLOVER ports? Which callsign databases do you support?  
> How well are ax.25 users served by the switch?  
>  
> Sounds like you have the perfect solution, please describe it to us.

Well, I believe so ;-)

CLOVER, well, the dozen or so units out there don't (in my mind) merit special consideration. No Bias, just no real market...

As far as the rest, TNOS supports ALL other protocols, allows on the same box to have a WWW server that can 'appear' to be a part of TNOS, can run a 'NNTP' server, can provide a full-service BBS, a conference bridge, one of several callbook databases (mine is updated DAILY from the FCC). It has RF ports and 31 AXIP ports to distant gateways over the internet. It is connected to the local ROSE network. It LINKS distant ROSE networks across the Internet.

I also have between 400-600 netrom nodes available at any time.

Not a problem, with the right OS and some flexible tools....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

#### 40. Re: [BBSSIG:1016] Re: more on Linux

From: [hank\\_oredson@MENTORG.COM](mailto:hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM) (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Thu, 29 Jun 95 10:41:02 PDT  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <9506291041.ZM11143@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jun 29, 9:32am, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

> CLOVER, well, the dozen or so units out there don't (in my mind) merit  
> special consideration. No Bias, just no real market...

Sorry I was not more clear. I run clover. For me to change to some other OS, I would still need to run clover. Ditto the 20 stations I link with on clover.

> As far as the rest, TNOS supports ALL other protocols, allows on the same  
> box to have a WWW server that can 'appear' to be a part of TNOS, can run  
> a 'NNTP' server, can provide a full-service BBS, a conference bridge, one  
> of several callbook databases (mine is updated DAILY from the FCC). It  
> has RF ports and 31 AXIP ports to distant gateways over the internet. It  
> is connected to the local ROSE network. It LINKS distant ROSE networks  
> across the Internet.  
>  
> I also have between 400-600 netrom nodes available at any time.  
>  
> Not a problem, with the right OS and some flexible tools....

Funny, you just described my station, except for ROSE (we don't use it), and the CLOVER capability (we use it), the httpd server (I run one), and the commercial network (we don't need it, we use ham radio).

You didn't mention how many RF ports, my system has 8, other local systems have from 5 to 10 RF ports. I suspect this would not be a problem.

How about AMTOR/PACTOR support? This is also a requirement in our network.

Looks like TNOS might come close to what we need, with some major updates for the HF modes.

Now for the biggy: will your machine also run regular windows programs and regular DOS programs? Mine will (and does) concurrently with the

ham radio networking.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

#### 41. Re: [BBSSIG:1017] Re: more on Linux

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Fri, 30 Jun 1995 10:00:08 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9506300907.V4865-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 29 Jun 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Jun 29, 9:32am, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
>  
> > CLOVER, well, the dozen or so units out there don't (in my mind) merit  
> > special consideration. No Bias, just no real market...  
>  
> Sorry I was not more clear. I run clover. For me to change to some  
> other OS, I would still need to run clover. Ditto the 20 stations  
> I link with on clover.

I know you do, Hank, and the 'dozen' or so portion of my remark was NOT  
meant as a slur. \*IF\* I were running HF packet, I would probably find a  
way to come up with the dough to get into Clover, too.

> Funny, you just described my station, except for ROSE (we don't use it),  
> and the CLOVER capability (we use it), the httpd server (I run one),  
> and the commercial network (we don't need it, we use ham radio).

Since you've already added CLOVER support to your BBS, if you send me  
enough info, I'll try to port it into TNOS, which means it will also make  
it into JNOS, I'm sure.....

> You didn't mention how many RF ports, my system has 8, other local  
> systems have from 5 to 10 RF ports. I suspect this would not be  
> a problem.

Into my system here at home, there is only one port out of TNOS to the  
internal ROSE stack, which runs several different RF paths. With my  
setup, as far as TNOS is concerned, it's just one big network.

But you are correct, multiple RF ports out of the BBS is no problem....

> How about AMTOR/PACTOR support? This is also a requirement in our network.

As with CLOVER, given info and a willing tester, anything is possible ;-)

> Looks like TNOS might come close to what we need, with some major updates  
> for the HF modes.

>  
>

> Now for the biggy: will your machine also run regular windows programs  
> and regular DOS programs? Mine will (and does) concurrently with the  
> ham radio networking.

Yep! The Linux Dos Emulator (DOSEMU) runs most all DOS applications,  
including Windows 3.1. These run in there own Virtual Console, just a  
F-Key away. Also, DOSEMU outperform DOS in I/O bound task, due to the  
higher performance of the base OS. My TNOS compiles (in DOSEMU) run about  
3 times faster than under native DOS....

-----



Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 42. Re: [BBSSIG:1008] Linux, ect

From: "pipe2" <[pipe2@oeonline.com](mailto:pipe2@oeonline.com)>  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 15:28:47 +0000  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <[m0sRmIg-0004hJC@oeonline.oeonline.com](mailto:m0sRmIg-0004hJC@oeonline.oeonline.com)>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

<stuff deleted>

> Like TCP/IP, it's one of those things that hackers really appreciate, but it  
> will never gain much popularity or be very widely used by the average ham.

TCP/IP \*is\* gaining popularity, and it does so since it is much more flexible. It allows the packet system to function as a \*real\* network, and it makes Internet routing VERY easy (since the Internet is IP). I know many non-hackers who appreciate TCP/IP because of the things it allows them to do.

Linux is great! One of the big things about Linux is its excellent built-in TCP/IP support ('cause it's a UNIX variant). IT also has the best multitasking I have seen that doesn't require a Sun or SGI workstation.

-Bill kb8wyp

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## 43. Re: [BBSSIG:1019] Re: Linux, ect

From: [n5pvl@texoma.com](mailto:n5pvl@texoma.com) (charles brabham)  
Date: Fri, 30 Jun 1995 16:44:53 -0500  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <[199506302144.QAA29562@ns1.texoma.com](mailto:199506302144.QAA29562@ns1.texoma.com)>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>> Like TCP/IP, it's one of those things that hackers really appreciate, but it  
>> will never gain much popularity or be very widely used by the average ham.  
>  
>TCP/IP \*is\* gaining popularity, and it does so since it is much more  
>flexible. It allows the packet system to function as a \*real\*  
>network, and it makes Internet routing VERY easy (since the Internet  
>is IP). I know many non-hackers who appreciate TCP/IP because of the  
>things it allows them to do.  
>

RGR, TCP/IP has been "gaining popularity" for at least five years that I know of. At this rate, in another twenty years or so it may begin to approach the popularity of AX25 networking. I doubt it, though.

The AX25 ham radio packet network currently covers most of the planet. That's "real" networking.

Take away the non-ham aspects of TCP/IP and what do you have? Not much.

Sorry, but I don't subscribe to the TCP/IP "vision" of the future of packet radio, where it's reduced to being a series of local feeds to internet, with no long-haul capability of its own. I'll stick with ham radio instead, thank you.

TCP/IP's user interface is stodgy and unimaginative, reminding one of working with the latest mainframe software from the 1970's. AX25 BBS software's user interface is much more intuitive, much easier to learn and get around in. It has many, many more features than any of the \*NOS software I've seen so far, and most AX25 BBS software takes advantage of advanced features such as message compression which hasn't yet ( but soon oughta be ) implemented in \*NOS systems.

When using long-haul VHF/UHF networks, reliability drops as you try to go longer distances in "one jump". AX25 nets get past this by use of the "store and forward" setup we are all familiar with. TCP/IP just plain suffers from lack of reliability on long hauls, partly due

to the fact that any ya-hoo with a C compiler can monkey with the code to his little heart's content.

The current surge in popularity with TCP/IP is rooted in the cheap access to internet. The access is cheap, but also hamstrung by serious limitations. It's a novelty right now, but that will wear off quickly. Internet access over the phone lines ( where it belongs anyway ) is rapidly becoming cheaper, and is much more rewarding than what TCP/IP ( Ham radio version ) can offer. It's getting cheaper on an ongoing basis. Within a few years, everybody will wake up to that fact, and that will be the end of the current surge in popularity with TCP/IP. Hams will say, " Gee, why am I putting up with this primitive, difficult to set up and learn software?"

Working on the assumption that the ham radio packet network isn't destroyed by the rather ignorant practice of internet message forwarding, that will leave things pretty much as they were a few years back, with the AX25 net covering the planet and a few small local nets here and there using TCP/IP.

Show me a TCP/IP HAM RADIO network which doesn't depend on landline services, and which covers the planet as AX25 does. THEN I might be impressed, providing you can find a way to bring the user interface up to at least 1980's standards in a way which is PRACTICAL for ham radio applications.

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :   N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                         Internet :   n5pvl@texoma.com

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# July 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9507

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9507](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9507)

## 1. Re: [BBSSIG:1020] Re: Linux, ect

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sat, 1 Jul 1995 10:00:20 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507010942.C4511-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 30 Jun 1995, charles brabham wrote:

Let me start by saying up front that I disagree with Charles (and others, notably Hank) who believe that the excellent PBBS messaging system *is* a network. Unless it allows real-time access (point-to-point) for users, messaging, and any OTHER uses, I don't believe it *is* a network. It is a messaging system, and a darn good one. A network point-to-point link that only allows two users and one type of usage is a dedicated point-to-point link, NOT a piece of network pipe. At least, that is my slant on it.

This is not meant as a flame, but as a different opinion, and possibly some information that Charles (and others) are not aware of.

And also, let me preface this by pointing out that I am one of the MAJOR forces that has been added PBBS compatibility/interactivity to xNOS. You don't need to convince ME that the PBBS messaging system is a GREAT one!

> RGR, TCP/IP has been "gaining popularity" for at least five years that I  
> know of. At this rate, in another twenty years or so it may begin to  
> approach the popularity of AX25 networking. I doubt it, though.  
>  
> The AX25 ham radio packet network currently covers most of the planet.  
> That's "real" networking.  
>  
> Take away the non-ham aspects of TCP/IP and what do you have? Not much.

Well, you have every Windows/WFW machine capable of using it. You have every Mac shipped with it. You will have every Window 95 machine and upgrade shipped with it. And of course the millions of machines connected to the Internet (oh, no.... The *I*\* word)....

> Sorry, but I don't subscribe to the TCP/IP "vision" of the future of packet  
> radio, where it's reduced to being a series of local feeds to internet, with  
> no long-haul capability of it's own. I'll stick with ham radio instead,  
> thank you.

The two are *NOT* mutually exclusive! TCP over RF *uses* the same AX25, and interoperates with PBBSs rather well....

> TCP/IP's user interface is stodgy and unimaginative, reminding one of  
> working with the latest mainframe software from the 1970's.  
> AX25 BBS software's user interface is much more intuitive, much easier to  
> learn and get around in. It has many, many more features than any of the  
> *NOS* software I've seen so far,

That you've seen, and in your opinion. No one can argue against your perspective, and that's fine.

>From MY perspective, if you dialed into a LL BBS, and got a non-graphic, single messagebase system, you would hang up, and remove that entry from your dialer. The LL BBSs provide the sysop to use ANSI graphics, colors; they have message topic areas, allow the user to gateway to other systems, and retrieve files from other machines globally in real-time.

Well, I've also just described TNOS, except I left out a WHOLE lot....

> and most AX25 BBS software takes advantage  
> of advanced features such as message compression which hasn't yet ( but soon  
> oughta be ) implemented in *NOS* systems.

TNOS 1.15 (linux only) and 2.00 (DOS and Linux) will be out soon (1.15 this week), and they support FBB compressed forwarding rather well. JNOS 1.10K will be out anytime now, and also will support it.

(Hank: I'd be glad to add in RLI compression support with the proper info)

- > When using long-haul VHF/UHF networks, reliability drops as you try to go
- > longer distances in "one jump". AX25 nets gets past this by use of the
- > "store and forward" setup we are all familiar with.
- > TCP/IP just plain suffers from lack of reliability on long hauls, partly due
- > to the fact that any ya-hoo with a C compiler can monkey with the code to
- > his little heart's content.

So you are saying that the user SHOULDN'T be allowed to even THINK about doing anything more with packet than use a PBBS for messaging? \*HONK\*, wrong answer, Contestant number 1!

xNOS uses that SAME "store and forward" in the SAME way. It also has a lot of more GOODIES, that in some parts of the country, the users are using the GOODIES more than the PBBS features.

- > The current surge in popularity with TCP/IP is rooted in the cheap access to
- > internet.

Yes, the \*I\* word again. Yes, it's popular. Yes, SOME are leaving packet (or using it less) and moving to the \*I\* word. But, NO, they are not mutually exclusive and in most areas where there are Internet<->packet gateways, the interest of Packet radio goes UP geometrically. Also, as they use it more, they put up higher speed links and switches and nodes, and then ALL (even those "not-mutually-exclusive" PBBSs) users gain from the interest and activities of those who may not be content with simple "several day turnaround" messaging....

- > Working on the assumption that the ham radio packet network isn't destroyed
- > by the rather ignorant practice of internet message forwarding, that will
- > leave things pretty much as they were a few years back, with the AX25 net
- > covering the planet and a few small local nets here and there using TCP/IP.

"destroyed"! Come on! You (from your message's own content) obviously know very little about TCP/IP and littler about xNOS. That's fine. Nothing wrong with that. Probably only know hat someone said it wasn't good, and you saw it was different than a PBBS.

Difference is NOT evil and destructive! Didn't we learn this when \*WE\* (packet radio) were looked down on by the "REAL" Amateurs, for being [stupid|evil|destructive|silly|non-amateur] and even \*thinking\* about that \*\*NEW\*\* thing called Packet. They thought it was just a phase, too.

But, you see, this 'phase' can communicate with virtually ALL machines that are now being sold, using software that is shipped with it, and software that they can normally use to NETWORK their machines together with. They can send/receive mail from their Ham friends from their work computer, and chat in real-time with them, using OFF THE SHELF (or pre-installed) software. They can EVEN send PBBS mail, from a machine that doesn't know what a PBBS is.

PBBS software isn't (and probably shouldn't be) integrated to that level. TCP/IP \*IS\* (like it or not) a world-wide standard. ALL of the major OS vendors not only support it, but are moving any operations/software that \*doesn't\* support TCP/IP \*TOO\* it. Microsoft, Apple, Novell, and others have made VERY public statements that TCP/IP is a MAJOR aspect of their products.

- > Show me a TCP/IP HAM RADIO network which doesn't depend on landline
- > services, and which covers the planet as AX25 does.

But you see, PBBS messaging DOESN'T cover the planet, \*unless\* all you want to do \*is\* store-and-forwarding messaging!

- > THEN I might be
- > impressed, providing you can find a way to bring the user interface up to at
- > least 1980's standards in a way which is PRACTICAL for ham radio applications.

Some of us would rather use mid-09's standards....

73

-----

Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available)    {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 2. Re: Linux, ect, ect, ect..

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (charles brabham)  
Date: Sat, 1 Jul 1995 17:08:11 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507012208.RAA23229@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Brian A. Lantz....

>  
>Let me start by saying up front that I disagree with Charles (and others,  
>notably Hank) who believe that the excellent PBBS messaging system \*is\* a  
>network. Unless it allows real-time access (point-to-point) for users,  
>messaging, and any OTHER uses, I don't believe it \*is\* a network. It is a  
>messaging system, and a darn good one. A network point-to-point link that  
>only allows two users and one type of usage is a dedicated point-to-point  
>link, NOT a piece of network pipe. At least, that is my slant on it.  
>

I was devastated to learn that the AX25 "network" is not a real network, somehow. I connected to my Dad's station, 650 miles south of me ( but still in Texas ) over the TexNet system ( 2m access, 440 96k backbone ) to give him the sad news, and then to a buddy who lives two states north of me in Arkansas. The really scary part is that nobody would take my warning seriously. They all seemed to think the idea was funny! Texnet stretches from south Texas all the way into Missouri. These poor deluded souls think they have a network.. Sad, isn't it?

By the way, how far does your TCP/IP stuff get you without resorting to landlines? You know; with RADIO links like the HAMS use?  
( If this is confusing to you, find a ham and ask him about radios. They're a lot of fun! )

>This is not meant as a flame, but as a different opinion, and possibly  
>some information that Charles (and others) are not aware of.  
>  
>And also, let me preface this by pointing out that I am one of the MAJOR  
>forces that has been added PBBS compatibility/interactivity to xNOS. You  
>don't need to convince ME that the PBBS messaging system is a GREAT one!  
>

Do you mean that YOU did that? I thought KF5MG did!

I wouldn't brag about that particular achievement, especially if you are sincere in your admiration of the packet radio network. Internet gates are the single greatest problem which the packet radio net currently faces. It's kinda like bragging about pouring used motor oil into the well.  
It's convenient allright, but not overly clever in the long run.

>> RGR, TCP/IP has been "gaining popularity" for at least five years that I  
>> know of. At this rate, in another twenty years or so it may begin to  
>> approach the popularity of AX25 networking. I doubt it, though.  
>>  
>> The AX25 ham radio packet network currently covers most of the planet.  
>> That's "real" networking.  
>>  
>> Take away the non-ham aspects of TCP/IP and what do you have? Not much.  
>  
>Well, you have every Windows/WFW machine capable of using it. You have  
>every Mac shipped with it. You will have every Window 95 machine and  
>upgrade shipped with it. And of course the millions of machines connected  
>to the Internet (oh, no.... The \*I\* word)....  
>

I guess we're getting our wires crossed here. I'm limiting myself to the topic of HAM RADIO.

>> Sorry, but I don't subscribe to the TCP/IP "vision" of the future of packet  
>> radio, where it's reduced to being a series of local feeds to internet, with

>> no long-haul capability of it's own. I'll stick with ham radio instead,  
>> thank you.  
>  
>The two are \*NOT\* mutually exclusive! TCP over RF \*uses\* the same AX25,  
>and interoperates with PBBSs rather well....  
>  
I guess that's why so many HF forwarders prefer to use JNOS, TNOS, ect. ;-)

>> TCP/IP's user interface is stodgy and unimaginative, reminding one of  
>> working with the latest mainframe software from the 1970's.  
>> AX25 BBS software's user interface is much more intuitive, much easier to  
>> learn and get around in. It has many, many more features than any of the  
>> \*NOS software I've seen so far,  
>  
>That you've seen, and in your opinion. No one can argue against your  
>perspective, and that's fine.  
>  
RGR. I run JNOS 110i, which should be fairly current. Do I take it that you  
argue the point above?  
It sure would make you look silly if you did!

>>From MY perspective, if you dialed into a LL BBS, and got a non-graphic,  
>single messagebase system, you would hang up, and remove that entry from  
>your dialer. The LL BBSs provide the sysop to use ANSI graphics, colors;  
>they have message topic areas, allow the user to gateway to other  
>systems, and retrieve files from other machines globally in real-time.  
>  
>Well, I've also just described TNOS, except I left out a WHOLE lot....  
>  
All this is done over RF links? I doubt it. Take out the non-ham related  
stuff, the message topic areas, and what are you describing? My AX25 BBS,  
except you left out a whole lot more..  
Your perspective sure does seem to lean rather heavily on landline-related  
stuff. Personally, I lean more toward ham radio.  
>  
>TNOS 1.15 (linux only) and 2.00 (DOS and Linux) will be out soon (1.15  
>this week), and they support FBB compressed forwarding rather well. JNOS  
>1.10K will be out anytime now, and also will support it.  
>  
>(Hank: I'd be glad to add in RLI compression support with the proper info)

That's a step forward! As \*NOS continues to resemble AX25 BBS's more and  
more, it gets better and better. This process of imitation has been the  
basis of most of \*NOS's progress over the last five years. You've still got  
a long way to go, though. Keep it up!  
>  
>> When using long-haul VHF/UHF networks, reliability drops as you try to go  
>> longer distances in "one jump". AX25 nets gets past this by use of the  
>> "store and forward" setup we are all familiar with.  
>> TCP/IP just plain suffers from lack of reliability on long hauls, partly due  
>> to the fact that any ya-hoo with a C compiler can monkey with the code to  
>> his little heart's content.  
>  
>So you are saying that the user SHOULD'N'T be allowed to even THINK about  
>doing anything more with packet than use a PBBS for messaging? \*HONK\*,  
>wrong answer, Contestant number 1!

I looked in the text above, and didn't find the place where I said that.  
Could you show me where you saw that?  
Should I assume you didn't understand my point about random monkeying with  
the code affecting reliability, or is it that you have no real argument  
concerning that point?

>xNOS uses that SAME "store and forward" in the SAME way. It also has a  
>lot of more GOODIES, that in some parts of the country, the users are  
>using the GOODIES more than the PBBS features.  
>  
RGR, same with my AX25 BBS setup. Folks like the callbook, the sat server,  
the conference bridge, the file archives, ect ect. Again, I'm glad you've  
been able to imitate FBB's message compression. The more \*NOS software  
imitates AX25 software, the better it gets!

>> The current surge in popularity with TCP/IP is rooted in the cheap access to  
>> internet.  
>  
>Yes, the \*I\* word again. Yes, it's popular. Yes, SOME are leaving packet  
>(or using it less) and moving to the \*I\* word. But, NO, they are not  
>mutually exclusive and in most areas where there are Internet<->packet  
>gateways, the interest of Packet radio goes UP geometrically. Also, as

>they use it more, they put up higher speed links and switches and nodes,  
>and then ALL (even those "not-mutually-exclusive" PBBSs) users gain from  
>the interest and activities of those who may not be content with simple  
>"several day turnaround" messaging....  
>

How long does it take your "network" to move a message across country  
without resorting to the landline service? Would "infinity" be a good guess?

It's true that local access grows around I-net gates.. Long-haul capability  
withers, and that capability is the foundation of the packet RADIO network.  
This is how and why the snowballing rush to abandon RF links for landline  
ones is very rapidly deteriorating the packet radio network.

>> Working on the assumption that the ham radio packet network isn't destroyed  
>> by the rather ignorant practice of internet message forwarding, that will  
>> leave things pretty much as they were a few years back, with the AX25 net  
>> covering the planet and a few small local nets here and there using TCP/IP.  
>  
>"destroyed"! Come on! You (from your message's own content) obviously  
>know very little about TCP/IP and littler about xNOS. That's fine.  
>Nothing wrong with that. Probably only know hat someone said it wasn't  
>good, and you saw it was different than a PBBS.  
>

RGR, "destroyed".. What happens to HF forwarders and those who plan  
long-haul VHF/UHF nets near an Internet gate? Take a guess.  
I've run several versions of JNOS over the years, but haven't checked out  
TNOS yet. I'll assume that while JNOS lacks some of TNOS's features, it is  
pretty much the same deal. I'm familiar with it.  
Actually, I'm the fellow who assigns IP addresses in my local area, and  
think it's fairly usable, once you finally get it set up and running. The  
"learning curve" is so steep though, that so far I've never run across  
anyone who has gotten it working correctly without LOTS of assistance. ( )  
Normally, at least one visit to the new guy's QTH ends up being required. )  
As long as that situation continues you can kiss the idea of TCP/IP being  
popular goodbye. Most packet ops don't find it to be worth all the hassle,  
and would rather use software they can learn and understand in a reasonable  
amount of time, without having to "know somebody". Most hams are fairly  
independent types who like to be able to do things on thier own, and they  
have a wide variety of different TNC's to work with. If you download a fresh  
copy of \*NOS and don't happen to use a KISS TNC, you're generally out of  
luck unless (again) you "know somebody". MOST packet ops have KISS TNC's,  
but not ALL. Some use HDLC cards, some use BPQ software, some use HF digital  
controllers, ect ect. None of them like the idea of having to find a local  
hacker to "massage" thier software into functionality before it can be used.  
NOS falls on it's face in much the same way that OS/2 does, when you attempt  
to use it with anything other than a very narrow selection from the  
equipment which is currently available.

(( Material not related to ham radio deleted ))

>  
>> Show me a TCP/IP HAM RADIO network which doesn't depend on landline  
>> services, and which covers the planet as AX25 does.  
>  
>But you see, PBBS messaging DOESN'T cover the planet, \*unless\* all you  
>want to do \*is\* store-and-forwarding messaging!  
>

TCP/IP doesn't even do that, on a worldwide basis. In fact, TCP/IP HAM RADIO  
does nothing whatsoever on a worlwide basis, or even a national basis.  
( Remember the key phrase HAM RADIO. )

This debate brings to mind all the hollering and screaming about the no-code  
tech license, and how many hams were convinced that the CB'ers would ruin  
ham radio.

They should have been hollering and screaming about the landline BBS  
devotees instead.

These guys figure "a network's a network", and have no real sense of pride  
in ham radio's greatest achievement; A worldwide digital network designed,  
built, and operated by ham radio operators.

This could possibly explain why they have so much trouble differentiating  
between ham radio and landline use. They just can't see why hams oughta try  
to use radios in preference over landlines, and we'll be darned lucky if we  
don't end up losing spectrum and/or having OUR network crippled as a result  
of thier antics.

Be a ham!

### 3. Re: [BBSSIG:1022] Re: Linux, ect, ect, ect..

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 1995 01:14:55 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507020135.E176-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 1 Jul 1995, charles brabham wrote:

[ramblings, inaccuracies, narrow-mindedness and insults ommitted]

Nothin' left to Charles' attack on me.....

Obviously a waste of my time.....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz        http://www.lantz.com        brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
    while (memory\_available)        {  
        eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
        if (feel\_like\_it)  
            make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);  
        gates\_bank\_balance++;  
    }

---

### 4. Glad that Linux, ect stuff is over.

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (charles brabham)  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 1995 03:41:05 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507020841.DAA04378@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Brian A. Lantz

>  
>[ramblings, inaccuracies, narrow-mindedness and insults ommitted]  
>  
>Nothin' left to Charles' attack on me.....  
>  
>Obviously a waste of my time.....  
>

Brian has confused a few jabs at his "perspective" with an attack on Brian himself, it looks like. I don't know Brian, never met him. If I did, I'd probably think he was alright, just like I end up doing with most folks I meet. ( Even those I disagree with. )

I disagree with his way of looking at things,( concerning TCP/IP and Internet ) but am more than content to let the course of events be the final arbitrator in this debate. One, both, or niether one of us will eventually be proved right. I'm not in a big rush. These issues should clarify themselves within a year or two, for the most part.

Along with the alleged ramblings, inaccuracies, narrow-mindedness and insults, I made several very clear points which Brian has declined to comment on. I'm sure he has good reason to avoid attempting to debate those points of view which I expressed, not to mention what must be some rather uncomfortable facts which I pointed out.

It probably seems funny that so much keyboard-pounding occurred in this BBSSIG over "network" issues. For my part, I see very little division between being a BBS SYSOP and being a Networker. To do a passable job at one, you must involve yourself ( to some extent ) in the other. BBS SYSOPs are the packet network's biggest "customers", and I feel a personal obligation as a SYSOP to give something back to the network which has given so much to me, in making what I do possible. This, in combination with my "sense of humour" has much more to do with the attitudes I have projected here than any alleged animosity toward Brian on a personal level. That "animosity" doesn't exist.

I have what is sometimes referred to as an "unfortunate tone", which is more of a reflection of my debating style than anything else. It's 'unfortunate' in some ways, but it does allow me to get my point across in a plain, easy to understand manner. It probably comes from debating on the packet network, where size is an issue and every word must count. That, and my alleged



"sense of humour", which many find to be debatable in itself!

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 5. Re: [BBSSIG:1022] Re: Linux, ect, ect, ect..

From: Fred Peerenboom <peerenbf@dmaphub.dma.org>  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 1995 08:13:03 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SV4.3.91.950702075930.4046A-100000@dmaphub.dma.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>well, a lot, like a whole bunch of stuff was left out of here. (12k messages talking about a narrow part of the country get tedious)

tcp/ip and ham radio go hand in hand.  
tcp uses the current ax.25 protocol to move information  
and I think the most important one, the simple fact that we can use a protocol that can interface with the internet or where ever and attempt to expand on it and yes, even allow every yahoo with a compiler to hack at it, is one of the very best things about "ham" radio that there is.

I have silently watched all of these messages flow through here, and in of all things, the internet, \*\*\*\*NOT ON HAM RADIO\*\*\*\* and often wonder to myself why the souls that are so against the \*nos crowd even bother coming to the internet to get their messages out. Could it be that they have learned the hard way as I have that the "good, top flight, cutting edge of technologies" plain jane ax.25 ham network really does suck? That if it weren't for the "landline forwards" and the "satgate forwards" that 90 percent of the message and personal mail traffic generated would not get out of your county most of the time, let alone to another state or country. C'mon guys and gals, get real. I know that this is the era of "buy"----"open box"-----"plug in"-----"play" but that is not the real intent of ham radio is it? Not in my estimation at least. I prefer to experiment and to attempt to improve. Just think of this to those that claim that "\*nos" is not user friendly, neither was the first transmitter that I ever built on a chunk of wood, with wire, tube sockets and tuner capacitors from old "atwater-kent" receivers, but look at where that "pine board" transmitter has evolved to now.

Well, because I hate long winded diatribes flowing from the singular think tank of one person I will stop this one before it becomes even more nauseous to the plug and play, "user friendly" crowd.

Fred            ke8tq            ke8tq@n8acv#day.oh.usa.noam    (linux/tnos)

---

## 6. Re: [BBSSIG:1024] Glad that Linux, ect stuff is over.

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 1995 09:03:42 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507020922.H176-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 2 Jul 1995, charles brabham wrote:

> Along with the alleged ramblings, inaccuracies, narrow-mindedness and  
> insults, I made several very clear points which Brian has declined to  
> comment on. I'm sure he has good reason to avoid attempting to debate those  
> points of view which I expressed, not to mention what must be some rather  
> uncomfortable facts which I pointed out.

I have decline comment, because someone with a closed mind (who already hasn't listened to what I've said, and distorted most of it) does not merit any more of my time. I have an RF network and a gateway to tend to. Arguing about the merits of the Internet \*ON\* the Internet is a fool's folly....

73

-----  
Brian A. Lantz    http://www.lantz.com    brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
    while (memory\_available)    {  
        eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
        if (feel\_like\_it)  
            make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);

```
        gates_bank_balance++;  
    }
```

---

## 7. Re: [BBSSIG:1023] Re: Linux, ect, ect, ect..

From: hank@cospc.com (Hank Pustarfi)  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 1995 09:26:42 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sSP2q-0005UdC@bonzai.cospc.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Recently, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

```
>  
> On Sat, 1 Jul 1995, charles brabham wrote:  
>  
> [ramblings, inaccuracies, narrow-mindedness and insults ommitted]  
>  
> Nothin' left to Charles' attack on me.....  
>  
> Obviously a waste of my time.....  
>
```

Starting about the mid 70's to some time in the 80's computer technology had what was called 'distributed systems'. Sure you could move a file from one system to another, but it was painful. There were 'store and forward' 'network' enhancements such as uucp and BLN developed that did enhance the value of a loosely connected network. Then came innovations such as 'DECnet' and tcp/ip that led to tightly coupled 'real time' networks. Gee when I send a mail I can see that it is delivered in real time and I get a receipt, not stored on some machine down the line. I can mount a file system thats from a machine that is half-way around the world and it appears as local. Yes we heard the same 'words' then from the academic and corporate environment as we continue to hear in this radio environment, 'who needs it'.

It is very difficult to make some feel there is a use for something that they just do not understand. Sometimes is just not worth the effort to try to explain. Those of us that have the interest will continue to try evolve this into a real time network. No at times configuration and operation is not easy. It will improve and it will get easier with time. For those that want to use it fine. For those that do not, thats OK too. Not everyone wants to develop things like DSP's and spread spectrum but there coming to. Eventually they too will be enjoyed by all even if they do not understand the technology or even realize the use of it.

--

Hank Pustarfi

k3wgv@k3wgv.ampr.org

hank@cospc.com

"It is always the adventurers who accomplish great things." -- Montesquieu

---

## 8. Linux v/s Windows

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 1995 09:06:07 -0600 (MDT)  
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950702084451.25514A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

It has been fun to scan all the stuff written on this subject while I was on vacation and away from all this. So let me tell you how I see the world now, as pertains to Linux and Windows.

Brian, who has a very thin skin, when you argue against his TNOS or Linux will just have to skip this part... since I have loaded Linux and got it to run NOS. It works just fine. Problem is, with 1 computer tied up with Linux, I could not run my F6FBB packet bbs. All my nice DOS files were not available. All my work (and play) microsoft applications like Word, Excell and others were not there. So Linux is not for everyone.

I run Windows and have 2 NOS and the FBB BBS multitasked under it. On the 2 weeks I was gone they all ran fine. I have about 200 computers at work that run Windows and a lot of Windows applications like PCTCP and WordPerfect and Access and Dbase and... and I have a contractor who loads the applications and fixes any problems. We started out with 5 people doing this 2 years ago. Now 1 person does this part time! When the user learns to stop messing around with things and the computer gets done

with infant mortality, the PC just works and works.

Hams in Las Cruces still don't use Windows much. Those who do are computer hobby types as well as hams. Most have never even heard of Linux. They have heard of C=64 and Atari and Radio Shack. I have real problems getting guys to try NOS. But they do run Procom and list every message on my Packet BBS.

To those reading this you are internet connected and much ahead of the other hams near you. If you have many DOS computers and one is a 386 and not used, Try Linux. If not forget Linux. Run Windows. It works fine and there are thousands of cheap applications written for Windows.

73, karl, k5di

---

## 9. Re: [BBSSIG:1026] Re: Glad that Linux, ect stuff is over.

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (charles brabham)  
Date: Sun, 2 Jul 1995 10:57:47 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507021557.KAA18711@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Brian A. Lantz...

>Arguing about the merits of the Internet \*ON\* the Internet is a fool's  
>folly....  
>

That's OK, Brian.. You go on arguing the merits of Internet..

I'll keep on arguing the merits of HAM RADIO.

Count on it.

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                         Internet :    n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 10. Re: [BBSSIG:1026] Re: Glad that Linux, ect stuff is over.

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Date: Sun, 02 Jul 1995 11:30:04 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507021837.NAA07432@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I think the discussion of operating systems, amateur and commercial digital technology are valid topics to bring to the net. We all have different experiences and opinions to share. I certainly don't know it all, and as a result learn quite a bit from these discussions. I too sometimes get wrapped up in the "sweet dream" of a concept and and have drifted away from reality.

For ham radio digital applications to work well, it's necessary to either have RF circuits imitating the qualities of a telephone line, or a very robust protocol that will deal with noise and interference. As the digital applications become more sophisticated, higher speed over the link is necessary.

When one unleashes a sophisticated protocol on a network incapable of coping smoothly with its higher overhead, there's bound to be "discussion" about this. Too often, the people involved develop emotional attachments to their version of the "sweet dream" rather than objectively seek reality.

Unfortunately for ham radio, there's little commercial digital HF radio interest at the present time. The realities of solar cycles, noise, interfering signals and variable propagation effects has forced the development of more reliable commercial and military circuits. This has led to the technology of satellite and fiber optic systems. As amateurs exposed to these technologies, our perceptions change. Where we used to be satisfied with slowly digging out of the noise a short CW exchange with a DX station, we now have an appetite to QUICKLY pass large data files.

If our goal is to pass quickly large data files, then the protocols with which to do this, are secondary. Fortunately (plug for TAPR) for ham radio, we have the SIGS and a number of individuals working on parallel developments with the intent of achieving our goal. To my way of thinking, the current work being done on the HFSIG in exploring robust protocols for HF is no less than exciting. By the same token, the efforts underway to improve the file delivery software that's being done on this and the XNOS

groups, are equally exciting and very necessary. The success of XNOS as well as the increase in distribution of BBS traffic has lead to an increased focus on higher speed RF links and this too, is necessary.

In the long haul, the operating systems and techniques which win out, will do so because they incorporate the following:

- (a) Are inexpensive
- (b) Accomplish the objective
- (c) Documented clearly for user ease
- (d) Are fun/interesting

Currently there is an emphasis on networking protocols that are compatible with the internet. I personally see little wrong with this since it's exposing a level of education to many unfamiliar with commercial networking. Additionally it could be to the national good to have this capability in time of emergency. Many have expressed concern that this emphasis is detracting from the RF nature of ham radio, and even ham radio itself. True, there seems to be very little input on the SIGS from the RF types. However when the day comes that message unit fees are in place on the internet, there WILL be a reversal (see (a), above).

73 de Jack

---

## 11. 1995 ARRL DCC (Papers Deadline)

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Mon, 3 Jul 1995 03:48:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: aprssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing),  
hfsig@tapr.org (HF SIG mailing), netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing),  
amsat-bb@amsat.org (AMSAT BB Mail Group), tapr-tnc@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507030848.DAA31049@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

1995 ARRL Digital Communications Conference  
September 8-10th, 1995  
Arlington, Texas (minutes from DFW airport)

\*\*\*\*\* PAPERS DEADLINE July 21st, 1995 \*\*\*\*\*

Anyone interested in digital communications is invited to submit a paper for publication in the Conference Proceedings. Presentation at the Conference is not required for publication. If you know of someone who is doing great things with digital communications, be sure to personally tell them about this! Papers are due by July 21, 1995, and should be submitted to Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 or via the Internet to mweinberg@arrrl.org. Please contact Maty for detailed format requirements.

Full text is available on the Internet:  
FTP: ftp.tapr.org WWW: <http://www.tapr.org/tapr> E-Mail: [tapr@tapr.org](mailto:tapr@tapr.org)  
-----

The ARRL Digital Communications Conference is an international forum for radio amateurs in digital communications, networking, and related technologies to meet, publish their work, and present new ideas and techniques for discussion. Presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results, and practical applications. The Digital Communications Conference is not just for the digital elite, but for digitally-orientated amateurs of all levels of experience.

The 1995 Digital Communications Conference will be held on September 8-10th, 1995 in Arlington, Texas. Arlington is just minutes away from the Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport, which is located in the middle of the country, and airfares have never been cheaper for this conveniently-located conference.

In addition to the presentation of papers on Saturday, two workshops will be held during the conference. On Friday, Keith Sproul, WU2Z, will hold a workshop on APRS packet-location software. Keith is the Chair of the TAPR APRS Special Interest Group, developer of the Macintosh version of APRS, and a leader in the area of APRS technology. This is a unique opportunity to gain insight into this fast growing new digital aspect of

amateur operations that combines computers, packet radio, and GPS (Global Positioning Satellites). On Sunday, Dewayne Hendricks, WD8DZP, will conduct a workshop focusing on a survey of Personal Communications Systems and their applications and use in the Amateur Radio Service. Dewayne is an expert in the area of commercial wireless systems; his company WarpSpeed Imagineering, focuses on wireless Internet. This workshop presents an opportunity to learn how Personal Communications Technology (handheld and small business wireless systems) can be used in the amateur service.

Full information on the conference and hotel information can be obtained by contacting Tucson Amateur Packet Radio, 8987-309 E. Tanque Verde Road, Tucson, AZ 85749-9399. Phone: (817) 383-0000. Fax: (817) 566-2544. Internet: TAPR@TAPR.ORG <http://www.tapr.org/tapr>

Sincerely,

Greg Jones, WD5IVD - President, Tucson Amateur Packet Radio  
Dave Wolf, W05H - President, Texas Packet Radio Society

---

## 12. Re: [BBSSIG:1029] Re: Glad that Linux, ect stuff is over.

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Mon, 3 Jul 1995 09:31:59 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507030946.D172-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 2 Jul 1995, charles brabham wrote:

> According to Brian A. Lantz...  
>  
> >Arguing about the merits of the Internet \*ON\* the Internet is a fool's  
> >folly....  
> >  
> >  
> That's OK, Brian.. You go on arguing the merits of Internet..  
>  
> I'll keep on arguing the merits of HAM RADIO.  
>  
> Count on it.

Please quit distorting my words! I \*NEVER\* argued against RF! Go \*READ\* my message. If you got that out of it, you better go back and put it back in, because \*I\* never wrote it.....

And I \*DIDN'T\* argue FOR the Internet! Read it. I said (1) xNOS uses the same protocols (TCP/IP), (2) interest in packet grows in areas where there are Internet to RF gateways, and (3) these same internetworking protocols were being shipped with the current and future OSs.

If you spend as much time improving your local RF network as I do, I feel sorry for you. My dedication to HAM RADIO is not is question, except by you, a complete stranger who seems to only want to accuse by of things I never said.....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
while (memory_available) {
    eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
    if (feel_like_it)
        make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
    gates_bank_balance++;
}
```

---

## 13. Re: [BBSSIG:1028] Linux v/s Windows

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Mon, 3 Jul 1995 09:34:53 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507030905.E172-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 2 Jul 1995, Klarsen wrote:

>        Brian, who has a very thin skin, when you argue against his TNOS  
> or Linux will just have to skip this part... since I have loaded Linux  
> and got it to run NOS. It works just fine. Problem is, with 1 computer

```
> tied up up with Linux, I could not run my F6FBB packet bbs. All my nice
> DOS files were not available. All my work (and play) microsoft
> applications like Word, Excell and others were not there. So Linux is not
> for everyone.
```

Well, all you need to do is download a copy of the DOS Emulator, and you will probably find that all the DOS and Windows programs you wish to run \*WILL\* run in a DOS box under Linux just like they do in a DOS box under Windows/OS-2. Every DOS/Windows program I need and have tried does.....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 14. Re: [BBSSIG:1033] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: hank@cospc.com (Hank Pustarfi)  
Date: Mon, 3 Jul 1995 10:15:08 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sSmHF-0005UdC@bonzai.cospc.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Recently, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

```
>
> On Sun, 2 Jul 1995, Klarsen wrote:
>
> > Brian, who has a very thin skin, when you argue against his TNOS
> > or Linux will just have to skip this part... since I have loaded Linux
> > and got it to run NOS. It works just fine. Problem is, with 1 computer
> > tied up up with Linux, I could not run my F6FBB packet bbs. All my nice
> > DOS files were not available. All my work (and play) microsoft
> > applications like Word, Excell and others were not there. So Linux is not
> > for everyone.
>
> Well, all you need to do is download a copy of the DOS Emulator, and you
> will probably find that all the DOS and Windows programs you wish to run
> *WILL* run in a DOS box under Linux just like they do in a DOS box under
> Windows/OS-2. Every DOS/Windows program I need and have tried does.....
>
>
```

And they will run faster. Typically two to three times as fast as under DOS on the same hardware..

--

Hank Pustarfi                      [k3wgv@k3wgv.ampr.org](mailto:k3wgv@k3wgv.ampr.org)                      [hank@cospc.com](mailto:hank@cospc.com)

"It is always the adventurers who accomplish great things." -- Montesquieu

---

## 15. Re: [BBSSIG:1020] Re: Linux, ect

From: pipe2@oeonline.com  
Date: Mon, 3 Jul 95 13:19 EDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sSp9z-0000PbC@oeonline.oeonline.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

<stuff deleted>

```
>TCP/IP's user interface is stodgy and unimaginative, reminding one of
>working with the latest mainframe software from the 1970's.
>AX25 BBS software's user interface is much more intuitive, much easier to
>learn and get around in. It has many, many more features than any of the
>*NOS software I've seen so far, and most AX25 BBS software takes advantage
>of advanced features such as message compression which hasn't yet ( but soon
>oughta be ) implemented in *NOS systems.
```

I think you are confusing the \*protocol\* with the \*interface\*. The protocol can be anything you want it to be, and the user needs never know what is happening to move their data from point A to point B. The user needs only be concerned with the interface. TCP/IP is just like any protocol, whether it

be 802.3 (Ethernet), AX.25, or whatever. You have probably seen some of the WWW browsers around (Netscape, Mosaic, etc..) -- these are interfaces to services that run over TCP/IP networks. The user doesn't need to worry about changing directories and getting files with FTP -- the interface (in this case the web browser) does it for them. There are many different front-ends to TCP/IP based services, many great and some terrible. I have seen very difficult to use packet BBS software and I have seen very easy to use software. The same goes for TCP/IP. There are easy to use TCP/IP packages, and then there are very difficult to use packages. I prefer to use Linux for most of my TCP/IP stuff since it allows the most flexibility and a very broad selection of front-ends.

>When using long-haul VHF/UHF networks, reliability drops as you try to go  
>longer distances in "one jump". AX25 nets gets past this by use of the  
>"store and forward" setup we are all familiar with.  
>TCP/IP just plain suffers from lack of reliability on long hauls, partly due  
>to the fact that any ya-hoo with a C compiler can monkey with the code to  
>his little heart's content.

You could setup a store-and-forward site on TCP/IP as well. I haven't seen this done, but it is possible. The long-haul ability is not the fault of the protocol, but rather the fault of the hardware it must run on. If you have an unreliable link it is going to remain unreliable -- no matter what protocol you use. AX.25 allows store-and-forward to deal with this, TCP/IP can quickly route around the problem.

Fiddling with the code can create improvements or new problems. The problem is not the ability to fiddle with the code, but the code that does not function properly and is never fixed.

>The current surge in popularity with TCP/IP is rooted in the cheap access to  
>internet. The access is cheap, but also hamstrung by serious limitations.  
>It's a novelty right now, but that will wear off quickly. Internet access  
>over the phone lines ( where it belongs anyway ) is rapidly becoming  
>cheaper, and is much more rewarding than what TCP/IP ( Ham radio version )  
>can offer. It's getting cheaper on an ongoing basis.

Ham's pay no usage fees so I don't see how land lines (where there are monthly charges + usage rates, and the ISP fees are there as well) will ever be cheaper. More reliable, maybe.. But RF doesn't have to deal with the tree branches that telcos worry about :-)

>Within a few years, everybody will wake up to that fact, and that will be  
>the end of the current surge in popularity with TCP/IP. Hams will say, "  
>Gee, why am I putting up with this primitive, difficult to set up and learn  
>software?"

The software doesn't have to be primitive and hard to set-up.

I don't want to see TCP/IP wipe out AX.25, I would only like to see more TCP/IP than is currently around. A combination always offers the most flexibility since you aren't limited to any one of anything.

-Bill kb8wyp

---

## 16. Re: [BBSSIG:1034] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 3 Jul 1995 17:20:21 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950703171535.29568A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 3 Jul 1995, Hank Pustarfi wrote:

>  
> Recently, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
> >  
> > On Sun, 2 Jul 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
> > >  
> > > Brian, who has a very thin skin, when you argue against his TNOS  
> > > or Linux will just have to skip this part... since I have loaded Linux  
> > > and got it to run NOS. It works just fine. Problem is, with 1 computer  
> > > tied up up with Linux, I could not run my F6FBB packet bbs. All my nice  
> > > DOS files were not available. All my work (and play) microsoft  
> > > applications like Word, Excell and others were not there. So Linux is not  
> > > for everyone.  
> > >  
> > Well, all you need to do is download a copy of the DOS Emulator, and you  
> > will probably find that all the DOS and Windows programs you wish to run

```

> > *WILL* run in a DOS box under Linux just like they do in a DOS box under
> > Windows/OS-2. Every DOS/Windows program I need and have tried does....
> >
> >
> > And they will run faster. Typically two to three times as fast as under DOS
> > on the same hardware..
> >
> --
>
> Hank Pustarfi                k3wgv@k3wgv.ampr.org                hank@cospc.com
>
> "It is always the adventurers who accomplish great things." -- Montesquieu
>
>
> Oh for Gods Sake! Pray tell me how software can make an interrupt
> driven CPU run 2 to 3 times faster than it does when using DOS, the
> operating system that the CPU was made to work with?

```

If your claim was credible I would re-load Linux and find that famous DOS emulator and try it. But it's not.

```

*****
* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*
*****

```

## 17. Re: [BBSSIG:1035] Re: Linux, ect

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 3 Jul 1995 17:43:06 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950703172340.29568B-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 3 Jul 1995 pipe2@oeonline.com wrote:

```

> <stuff deleted>
>
> >TCP/IP's user interface is stodgy and unimaginative, reminding one of
> >working with the latest mainframe software from the 1970's.
> >AX25 BBS software's user interface is much more intuitive, much easier to
> >learn and get around in. It has many, many more features than any of the
> >*NOS software I've seen so far, and most AX25 BBS software takes advantage
> >of advanced features such as message compression which hasn't yet ( but soon
> >oughta be ) implemented in *NOS systems.
>
> I think you are confusing the *protocol* with the *interface*. The protocol
> can be anything you want it to be, and the user needs never know what is
> happening to move their data from point A to point B. The user needs only be
> concerned with the interface. TCP/IP is just like any protocol, whether it
> be 802.3 (EtherNet), AX.25, or whatever. You have probably seen some of the
> WWW browsers around (Netscape, Mosaic, etc..) -- these are interfaces to
> services that run over TCP/IP networks. The user doesn't need to worry about
> changing directories and getting files with FTP -- the interface (in this
> case the web browser) does it for them. There are many different front-ends
> to TCP/IP based services, many great and some terrible. I have seen very
> difficult to use packet BBS software and I have seen very easy to use
> software. The same goes for TCP/IP. There are easy to use TCP/IP packages,
> and then there are very difficult to use packages. I prefer to use Linux for
> most of my TCP/IP stuff since it allows the most flexibility and a very
> broad selection of front-ends.

```

Let me add that I like the way JNOS works and looks. I am now using jnos to connect to my internet account and love how it works. And I can FTP files that other users must use Z-modem or other file transfer methods.

```

>
> >When using long-haul VHF/UHF networks, reliability drops as you try to go

```



> >longer distances in "one jump". AX25 nets gets past this by use of the  
 > >"store and forward" setup we are all familiar with.  
 > >TCP/IP just plain suffers from lack of reliability on long hauls, partly due  
 > >to the fact that any ya-hoo with a C compiler can monkey with the code to  
 > >his little heart's content.

I am one who has a C compiler and make my own versions of JNOS to  
 my little hearts desire. I will be sure not to make one for you.

Please get real and check on the way tcp/ip work. You can use  
 netrom or the ip routers to go as far as you care to. I prefer the ip  
 router concept that is available in the xij nodes. They are "store and  
 forward".

>  
 > You could setup a store-and-forward site on TCP/IP as well. I havn't seen  
 > this done, but it is possible. The long-haul ability is not the fault of the  
 > protocol, but rather the fault of the hardware it must run on. If you have an  
 > unreliable link it is going to remain unreliable -- no matter what protocol  
 > you use. AX.25 allows store-and-forward to deal with this, TCP/IP can  
 > quickly route around the problem.  
 >  
 > Fiddling with the code can create improvements or new problems. The problem  
 > is not the ability to fiddle with the code, but the code that does not  
 > function properly and is never fixed.  
 >  
 > >The current surge in popularity with TCP/IP is rooted in the cheap access to  
 > >internet. The access is cheap, but also hamstrung by serious limitations.  
 > >It's a novelty right now, but that will wear off quickly. Internet access  
 > >over the phone lines ( where it belongs anyway ) is rapidly becoming  
 > >cheaper, and is much more rewarding than what TCP/IP ( Ham radio version )  
 > >can offer. It's getting cheaper on an ongoing basis.  
 >  
 > Ham's pay no usage fees so I don't see how land lines (where there are  
 > monlthly charges + usage rates, and the ISP fees are there as well) will  
 > ever be cheaper. More reliable, maybe.. But RF doesn't have to deal with the  
 > tree branches that telcos worry about :-)  
 >  
 > >Within a few years, everybody will wake up to that fact, and that will be  
 > >the end of the current surge in popularity with TCP/IP. Hams will say, "  
 > >Gee, why am I putting up with this primitive, difficult to set up and learn  
 > >software?"

You are attacking tcp/ip because you have not been able to get it  
 running. I would feel as you do if I never used the stuff. But at this  
 time I'm using it and \*Love\* it.

If you want to try the software let me know and I will get you  
 good information on how to set it up.

73, de karl k5di

>  
 > The software doesn't have to be primitive and hard to set-up.  
 >  
 > I don't want to see TCP/IP wipe out AX.25, I would only like to see more  
 > TCP/IP than is currently around. A combination always offers the most  
 > flexibility since you aren't limited to any one of anything.  
 >  
 > -Bill kb8wyp  
 >  
 >

## 18. Re: [BBSSIG:1036] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
 Date: Tue, 4 Jul 1995 10:47:43 +0100  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507041033.I14681-0100000@lantz.com>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 3 Jul 1995, Klarsen wrote:

> Oh for Gods Sake! Pray tell me how software can make an interrupt  
 > driven CPU run 2 to 3 times faster than it does when using DOS, the

> operating system that the CPU was made to work with?  
>  
>  
> If your claim was credible I would re-load Linux and find that  
> famous DOS emulator and try it. But it's not.

Karl, you shouldn't call someone a liar if you don't know anything about the subject!

He is \*RIGHT\*, and it \*DOES\* run 2 to 3 times faster in most cases, because (1) Linux is a 32 bit OS, with 32 bit device drivers, (2) Linux's file system has probably the BEST caching scheme of any OS (it's being ported to Sun, and others, because of it's efficiency), and all disk-bound apps just SCREAM.

My TNOS compiles take 1/3 as long compiling in the DOSEMU under Linux, than they do under just DOS.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      http://www.lantz.com      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 19. Re: [BBSSIG:1038] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 4 Jul 1995 09:23:47 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950704091432.7209A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 4 Jul 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

> On Mon, 3 Jul 1995, Klarsen wrote:  
>  
> > Oh for Gods Sake! Pray tell me how software can make an interrupt  
> > driven CPU run 2 to 3 times faster than it does when using DOS, the  
> > operating system that the CPU was made to work with?  
> >  
> >  
> > If your claim was credible I would re-load Linux and find that  
> > famous DOS emulator and try it. But it's not.  
>  
> Karl, you shouldn't call someone a liar if you don't know anything about  
> the subject!  
>  
> He is \*RIGHT\*, and it \*DOES\* run 2 to 3 times faster in most cases,  
> because (1) Linux is a 32 bit OS, with 32 bit device drivers, (2) Linux's  
> file system has probably the BEST caching scheme of any OS (it's being  
> ported to Sun, and others, because of it's efficiency), and all  
> disk-bound apps just SCREAM.  
>  
> My TNOS compiles take 1/3 as long compiling in the DOSEMU under Linux,  
> than they do under just DOS.

OK Brian where do I get this DOS Emulator software. I will load it and run my performance software in the emulator and report the results. By the way the computer will be a 486-50 with 16 meg ram. I have a removable hard drive with Slackware Linux loaded on it.

And if you are correct the Linux and Emulator software had better beprotected and sold for a good price. But since it isn't maybe I will write code to load all this automatically and make MYSELF rich....)

73, karl

---

## 20. Re: [BBSSIG:1039] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Tue, 4 Jul 1995 12:59:09 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507041251.J14681-0100000@lantz.com>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 4 Jul 1995, Klarsen wrote:

```
> OK Brian where do I get this DOS Emulator software. I will load
> it and run my performance software in the emulator and report the
> results. By the way the computer will be a 486-50 with 16 meg ram. I have
> a removable hard drive with Slackware Linux loaded on it.
>
> And if you are correct the Linux and Emulator software had better
> beprotected and sold for a good price. But since it isn't maybe I will
> write code to load all this automatically and make MYSELF rich....)
```

DOSEMU is a GNU-copylefted application, the same as Linux itself, and is freely available at no cost. It is an ongoing development project.

I will send you a copy of the latest release announcement, with the details of where to get it, etc., in a personal message, so as not to waste bandwidth here....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

## 21. Re: [BBSSIG:1040] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Date: Tue, 04 Jul 1995 11:35:45 -0700  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199507041843.NAA00305@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Aw, go ahead and WASTE the bandwidth as I bet there are a lot of "heads up" on this topic!

73 de Jack

Stuff deleted

>DOSEMU is a GNU-copylefted application, the same as Linux itself, and is  
>freely available at no cost. It is an ongoing development project.

>  
>I will send you a copy of the latest release announcement, with the  
>details of where to get it, etc., in a personal message, so as not to  
>waste bandwidth here....

>  
>  
>-----  
>Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
>REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
>    while (memory_available) {
>        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
>        if (feel_like_it)
>            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
>        gates_bank_balance++;
>    }
>
>
>
>
```

---

## 22. Re: DOSEMU0.60.3.tgz release. (fwd)

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 4 Jul 1995 15:18:18 -0600 (MDT)  
To: TAPR BBS Sig <[bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950704151003.24361A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I agree with Jack Taylor, what's another few lines when so many have already been spent? And this software is going to make me rich! Just like OS2 made IBM rich....:)

Actually I have already got the dosemulator and instruction sheets on loading it and also on loading Windows 3.1 so I am ready to go. I have Norton's files that will benchmark the speed of the emulator doing file transfers and numeric calculations. If the emulator will allow formatting a floppy disk faster than real DOS it will be a winner...:)

73, de karl k5di

On Tue, 4 Jul 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

```
>
> ----- Forwarded message -----
> Date: Sat, 1 Jul 1995 12:35:33 +0300
> From: Lars Wirzenius <wirzeniu@cc.helsinki.fi>
> To: linux-activists@niksula.hut.fi, linux-announce@vger.rutgers.edu
> Subject: DOSEMU0.60.3.tgz release.
>
> X-Mn-Key: announce
>
> From: jmaclean@fox.nstn.ns.ca (James MacLean)
> Subject: DOSEMU0.60.3.tgz release.
> Newsgroups: comp.os.linux.announce
> Keywords: MS-DOS, emulation, DOSEMU
> Organization: ?
> Approved: linux-announce@news.ornl.gov (Lars Wirzenius)
> Followup-to: comp.os.linux.development.system
>
> ANNOUNCEMENT
> ~~~~~
> The DOSEMU team is proud to announce DOSEMU 0.60.3, the PC Emulator for Linux!
>
>
> WHAT IS DOSEMU?
> ~~~~~
> DOSEMU is a PC Emulator application that allows Linux to run a DOS
> operating system in a virtual x86 machine. This allows you to run
> many DOS applications. These are capabilities of DOSEMU worth noting:
>
> - Color text and full keyboard emulation (via hotkeys) via terminal
> - Built-in X-Windows support, includes IBM character set font!
> - Graphics capability at the console with most compatible video cards.
> - Much-improved DPMI support.
> - Runs Borland BCC.EXE / TCC.EXE version 3.x command line compilers!
> - Borlandc C++ 3.x IDE (with emumodule.o or kernel patch)
> - Runs several 32-bit DPMI-compliant video games, including DOS/4GW,
>   at the Linux console. A partial list of successfully tested games
>   includes DOOM2, Heretic, Descent, MK2, OMF2097, ROTT, and WarCraft!
> - Games run *MUCH* faster in dosemu due to improved timer emulation
> - NetBSD version of DOSEMU under development, contact jtk@atria.com
> - CDROM support
>
>
>
> REQUIREMENTS
> ~~~~~
> - Linux 1.1.45+ (with IPC support, IPX support optional)
> - GCC 2.5.8+ and LIBC 4.5.21+ are recommended for best results.
> - Plenty of swap, since DOSEMU requires between 12 and 25 megabytes
>   of total memory to compile, depending on Makefile configuration.
>
>
>
> CREDITS
> ~~~~~
> This release could not have gotten out the door without the work of
> the our relentless development team and friends, currently consisting
> of at least:
>
> Jon Tombs                Aaron                Karl Kiniger
> Daniel R. Barrlow        Christoph Niemann    Theodore T'so
> Derek Fawcus             Linus Torvalds      Alan Cox
> Alessandro Rubini        Corey Sweeney        James Maclean
> Hans Lermen              Andrew Tridgell      Jochen Hein
> Jason E Gordon            Lam Lai Yin, Savio    Alistair MacDonald
> Lawrence K Mao            Ronnie               Mark Rejhon
> Michael E. Deisher        Larry Stephan         Lutz Molgedey
> Amit Margalt              Marty Leisner         Dong Liu
> Scott Buchholz            Tim Van der Linden    John Davis
> Kang-Jin Lee              Matthew Grant          David Hansen
```

```

> John Kohl          Kevin P Lawton      Rod May
> Wayne P Meissner   Vinod G Kulkarni     Andries
> David Etherton
>
>
> WHERE TO GET IT:
> ~~~~~
> The DOSEMU PC Emulator can be downloaded from the following FTP sites
> when version 0.60.3 arrives around June the 28th:
>
>   tsx-11.mit.edu:/pub/linux/ALPHA/dosemu/dosemu0.60.3.tgz
>   dpsun.eas.asu.edu:/pub/dosemu/dosemu0.60.3.tgz
>   sunsite.unc.edu:/pub/Linux/system/Emulators/dosemu0.60.3.tgz
>
> We expect to see DOSEMU being included as an extra with many Linux
> Distribution packages.
>
>
>
> IMPORTANT NOTES
> ~~~~~
> If you haven't used DOSEMU in several months (Especially if the last
> version you used was DOSEMU 0.52 or earlier), please go to great
> caution to read the "QuickStart" file included with DOSEMU since
> the location and format of files (including the configuration file) has
> changed since the DOSEMU 0.50p11.
>
> While DOSEMU may be more stable than many of the previous releases, it
> must be noted that it is still possible to crash the Linux video and
> keyboard, if you don't follow instructions properly. In this case, it
> becomes necessary to use a remote terminal or even the RESET button,
> to reboot the system.
>
> The main risks of DOSEMU are the 'graphics' capability and 'rawkeyboard'.
> These can be disabled in the DOSEMU configuration file, to make DOSEMU
> become bullet-proof, at the cost of some convenience.
>
>
>
> HELPING US
> ~~~~~
> Many thanks to all who have helped with this release, by sending bug
> reports, patches, comments and/or ideas for DOSEMU! My apologies for
> not having answered every letter, and possibly missing some important
> information. If you know something you think we should know,
> contact us, PLEASE! We can be reached at:
>
> linux-msdos@vger.rutgers.edu (The DOSEMU team)
>
> Thank you,
> JES
> --
> James B. MacLean      jmaclean@fox.nstn.ns.ca
> Department of Education
> Nova Scotia, Canada
> B3M 4B2 (902) 424-8438
>
>
> --
> Send submissions for comp.os.linux.announce to: linux-announce@news.ornl.gov
> PLEASE remember Keywords: and a short description of the software.
>
>
>

```

Linux : A better UNIX than NT

## 23. Re: [BBSSIG:1041] Re: Linux v/s Windows

```

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Tue, 4 Jul 1995 17:52:22 +0100
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507041706.T14681-01000000@lantz.com>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

On Tue, 4 Jul 1995, Jack Taylor wrote:

```

> Aw, go ahead and WASTE the bandwidth as I bet there are a lot of "heads up"
> on this topic!
>
> 73 de Jack
>
> Stuff deleted

```

Okay, but remember, Jack asked ;-)

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Sat, 1 Jul 1995 12:35:33 +0300  
From: Lars Wirzenius <[wirzeniu@cc.helsinki.fi](mailto:wirzeniu@cc.helsinki.fi)>  
To: [linux-activists@niksula.hut.fi](mailto:linux-activists@niksula.hut.fi), [linux-announce@vger.rutgers.edu](mailto:linux-announce@vger.rutgers.edu)  
Subject: DOSEMU0.60.3.tgz release.

X-Mn-Key: announce

From: [jmaclean@fox.nstn.ns.ca](mailto:jmaclean@fox.nstn.ns.ca) (James MacLean)  
Subject: DOSEMU0.60.3.tgz release.  
Newsgroups: comp.os.linux.announce  
Keywords: MS-DOS, emulation, DOSEMU  
Organization: ?  
Approved: [linux-announce@news.ornl.gov](mailto:linux-announce@news.ornl.gov) (Lars Wirzenius)  
Followup-to: comp.os.linux.development.system

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~~~~~  
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~~~~~  
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- Color text and full keyboard emulation (via hotkeys) via terminal
- Built-in X-Windows support, includes IBM character set font!
- Graphics capability at the console with most compatible video cards.
- Much-improved DPMI support.
- Runs Borland BCC.EXE / TCC.EXE version 3.x command line compilers!
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- Games run \*MUCH\* faster in dosemu due to improved timer emulation
- NetBSD version of DOSEMU under development, contact [jtk@atria.com](mailto:jtk@atria.com)
- CDRom support

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- ~~~~~
- Linux 1.1.45+ (with IPC support, IPX support optional)
  - GCC 2.5.8+ and LIBC 4.5.21+ are recommended for best results.
  - Plenty of swap, since DOSEMU requires between 12 and 25 megabytes of total memory to compile, depending on Makefile configuration.

#### CREDITS

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Alessandro Rubini	Corey Sweeney	James Maclean
Hans Lermen	Andrew Tridgell	Jochen Hein
Jason E Gordon	Lam Lai Yin, Savio	Alistair MacDonald
Lawrence K Mao	Ronnie	Mark Rejhon

Michael E. Deisher	Larry Stephan	Lutz Molgedey
Amit Margalit	Marty Leisner	Dong Liu
Scott Buchholz	Tim Van der Linden	John Davis
Kang-Jin Lee	Matthew Grant	David Hansen
John Kohl	Kevin P Lawton	Rod May
Wayne P Meissner	Vinod G Kulkarni	Andries
David Etherton		

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```
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dsp.sun.eas.asu.edu:/pub/dosemu/dosemu0.60.3.tgz
sunsite.unc.edu:/pub/Linux/system/Emulators/dosemu0.60.3.tgz
```

We expect to see DOSEMU being included as an extra with many Linux Distribution packages.

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~~~~~  
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While DOSEMU may be more stable than many of the previous releases, it must be noted that it is still possible to crash the Linux video and keyboard, if you don't follow instructions properly. In this case, it becomes necessary to use a remote terminal or even the RESET button, to reboot the system.

The main risks of DOSEMU are the 'graphics' capability and 'rawkeyboard'. These can be disabled in the DOSEMU configuration file, to make DOSEMU become bullet-proof, at the cost of some convenience.

HELPING US

~~~~~  
Many thanks to all who have helped with this release, by sending bug reports, patches, comments and/or ideas for DOSEMU! My apologies for not having answered every letter, and possibly missing some important information. If you know something you think we should know, contact us, PLEASE! We can be reached at:

linux-msdos@vger.rutgers.edu (The DOSEMU team)

Thank you,  
JES

--

James B. MacLean           jmaclean@fox.nstn.ns.ca  
Department of Education  
Nova Scotia, Canada  
B3M 4B2 (902) 424-8438

Linux : A better UNIX than NT

--

Send submissions for comp.os.linux.announce to: linux-announce@news.ornl.gov  
PLEASE remember Keywords: and a short description of the software.

---

## 24. HALP Linux!

From: kazantze@stna7.stna.dgac.fr (Serge KAZANTZEV AD24 poste 8108)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 95 10:04:46 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507050804.AA07385@stna7.stna.dgac.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sorry for the bandwidth,  
I'm looking for a Linux e-mail list. I wish to download linux with AX25 tools.  
Any suggestion? Please answer to kazantze@stna7.stna.dgac.fr  
Thanks, de F6BHK.

---

## 25. Re: [BBSSIG:1043] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 08:18:31 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950705081645.9734A-100000@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 4 Jul 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

> Okay, but remember, Jack asked ;-)

Actually, I don't mind at all. I run FreeBSD now here at work as an experiment, and if Linux runs a dos emulator well, I may think about running that at home, as a second machine.

However, The PBBS will still be running dos+Qemm and Desqview.

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg Unviersity \*  
\* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ \*\*\*\*\*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 26. Re: [BBSSIG:1044] HALP Linux!

From: hank@cospc.com (Hank Pustarfi)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 09:51:20 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sTUrJ-0005UdC@bonzai.cospc.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Check ftp.ibp.fr:/pub/linux

Recently, Serge KAZANTZEV AD24 poste 8108 wrote:

>  
> Sorry for the bandwidth,  
> I'm looking for a Linux e-mail list. I wish to download linux with AX25 tools.  
> Any suggestion? Please answer to kazantze@stna7.stna.dgac.fr  
> Thanks, de F6BHK.  
>  
>

Hank Pustarfi

k3wgv@k3wgv.ampr.org

hank@cospc.com

---

## 27. Re: [BBSSIG:1045] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: Gary McDuffie <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 08:29:46 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507050825.A20776-0100000@hannibal>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Okay. I've come into the middle of this argument but you have my interest. I've also had one of my users come to me with questions about Linux that were generated by (I think), a QEX article. Where can a total novice go to find the most basic information on what, why, where, how to use, etc. Linux? The way this discussion has been going, it's getting to be too big to ignore.

Gary

---

## 28. Re: [BBSSIG:1042] Re: DOSEMU0.60.3.tgz release. (fwd)

From: dbashaw@BayNetworks.COM (David Bashaw)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 95 08:10:52 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507051510.AA05226@rimbaud.synoptics.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> From bbssig@tapr.org Tue Jul 4 14:51:45 1995  
> Actually I have already got the doseulator and instruction  
> sheets on loading it and also on loading Windows 3.1 so I am ready to go.  
> I have Norton's files that will benchmark the speed of the emulator doing  
> file transfers and numeric calculations. If the emulator will allow  
> formating a floppy disk faster than real DOS it will be a winner...:)  
>



> 73, de karl k5di  
>  
> On Tue, 4 Jul 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
>  
Wow. Good luck. I have been trying to get dosemu running but all I get  
is a 'Possible IO' error after the emulator asks for the date.  
Nothing, \*NOTHING\* is easy when it comes to Linux for this  
hardware engineer turned software engineer. I' love to try it if  
I can get it running. Watch out though, the 0.60.3 readme's say to  
avoid running windoze.

Dave  
wa6qwl

---

## 29. Re: [BBSSIG:1047] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: hank@cospc.com (Hank Pustarfi)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 11:16:20 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sTWBY-0005UdC@bonzai.cospc.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Gary McDuffie's words were:

>  
>  
> Okay. I've come into the middle of this argument but you have my  
> interest. I've also had one of my users come to me with questions about  
> Linux that were generated by (I think), a QEX article. Where can a total  
> novice go to find the most basic information on what, why, where, how to  
> use, etc. Linux? The way this discussion has been going, it's getting to  
> be too big to ignore.  
>  
> Gary  
>

Look at [sunite.unc.edu:/pub/Linux/docs/faqs|HOWTO](http://sunite.unc.edu:/pub/Linux/docs/faqs|HOWTO)

Good info there..

Hank Pustarfi

k3wgv@k3wgv.ampr.org

hank@cospc.com

---

## 30. Re: [BBSSIG:1047] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: dbashaw@BayNetworks.COM (David Bashaw)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 95 08:53:39 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507051553.AA05356@rimbaud.synoptics.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> Where can a total  
> novice go to find the most basic information on what, why, where, how to  
> use, etc. Linux? The way this discussion has been going, it's getting to  
> be too big to ignore.  
>  
> Gary  
>

comp.os.linux  
comp.os.linux.announce  
comp.os.linux.misc  
comp.os.linux.hardware  
comp.os.linux.answers  
comp.os.linux.x  
comp.os.linux.networking  
comp.os.linux.development.system  
comp.os.linux.setup

Thats all I could find.

Dave  
wa6qwl

---

## 31. Re: [BBSSIG:1023] Re: Linux, ect, ect, ect..

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 95 09:27:06 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507050927.ZM24517@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 2, 12:25am, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1023] Re: Linux, ect, ect..  
> On Sat, 1 Jul 1995, charles brabham wrote:  
>  
> [ramblings, inaccuracies, narrow-mindedness and insults ommitted]  
>  
> Nothin' left to Charles' attack on me.....  
>  
> Obviously a waste of my time.....

So Brian, does this mean you concede all points to Charles?

That is what I understand from your post above.

Ok ... it's a deal: Charles won, Brian lost.

Now let's get on with building a world-wide ham radio network.

Let's even let the tcp/ip folks use it if they want.

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

## 32. Re: [BBSSIG:1021] Re: Linux, ect

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 95 09:20:34 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507050920.ZM24511@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 1, 8:56am, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1021] Re: Linux, ect  
> On Fri, 30 Jun 1995, charles brabham wrote:  
>  
> Let me start by saying up front that I disagree with Charles (and others,  
> notably Hank) who believe that the excellent PBBS messaging system \*is\* a  
> network. Unless it allows real-time access (point-to-point) for users,  
> messaging, and any OTHER uses, I don't believe it \*is\* a network. It is a  
> messaging system, and a darn good one. A network point-to-point link that  
> only allows two users and one type of usage is a dedicated point-to-point  
> link, NOT a piece of network pipe. At least, that is my slant on it.

Can you explain what you mean a little more clearly here.  
What do you mean, for example, about "... only two users ..."?  
Do you mean "applications" when you write "users"?

If your definition of "network" is the same as what others mean  
by "realtime network" then I can somewhat understand what you are  
getting at, but the issue is ONLY one of response time.

Just trying to figure out what you are getting at.

Clearly, the ham tcp/ip network falls down badly on this count: it is  
very poorly connected, essentially does not exist at all except as a  
higher level protocol running over other underlying protocols ... and  
this should be no surprise: bet your Linux box uses, for example,  
ethernet as the underlying protocol that ip requires to get it's work  
done. Just like on ham radio where ip requires AX.25 or ROSE to get  
it's work done.

So this issue is really a straw man: were the AX.25 connectivity to exist,  
then ip connectivity would also exist. The real problem is that NO real  
connectivity exists. Why is that? The users have not wanted it badly  
enough to spend the money to create it. The users are not very interested  
in long haul realtime connectivity; at least not interested enough  
to spend the bucks required to build the networks that will support it.

>  
> This is not meant as a flame, but as a different opinion, and possibly  
> some information that Charles (and others) are not aware of.  
>  
> And also, let me preface this by pointing out that I am one of the MAJOR

> forces that has been added PBBS compatibility/interactivity to xNOS. You  
> don't need to convince ME that the PBBS messaging system is a GREAT one!  
>  
>  
> > RGR, TCP/IP has been "gaining popularity" for at least five years that I  
> know of. At this rate, in another twenty years or so it may begin to  
> approach the popularity of AX25 networking. I doubt it, though.  
> >  
> > The AX25 ham radio packet network currently covers most of the planet.  
> That's "real" networking.  
> >  
> > Take away the non-ham aspects of TCP/IP and what do you have? Not much.  
>  
> Well, you have every Windows/WFW machine capable of using it. You have  
> every Mac shipped with it. You will have every Window 95 machine and  
> upgrade shipped with it. And of course the millions of machines connected  
> to the Internet (oh, no.... The \*I\* word)....  
>  
>  
> > Sorry, but I don't subscribe to the TCP/IP "vision" of the future of packet  
> radio, where it's reduced to being a series of local feeds to internet,  
with  
> > no long-haul capability of it's own. I'll stick with ham radio instead,  
> > thank you.  
>  
> The two are \*NOT\* mutually exclusive! TCP over RF \*uses\* the same AX25,  
> and interoperates with PBBSSs rather well.....

And thus tcp/ip by itself is useless, as it requires the AX.25 transport.

That's what some of us have been hinting: first you build a functional  
AX.25 network, and then you can shovel any kind of bits you like down it,  
including other protocols such as ip, "x batch forwarding", "bbs messaging",  
AppleTalk, DECNET, dx cluster, whatever you like.

<deletia>

> (Hank: I'd be glad to add in RLI compression support with the proper info)

It's simple, and described both in my docs and in the BBS spec.  
If you want source code, send me a msg over the ham bbs system,  
and source will arrive via that mode. I don't have it here at work.

> > When using long-haul VHF/UHF networks, reliability drops as you try to go  
> > longer distances in "one jump". AX25 nets gets past this by use of the  
> > "store and forward" setup we are all familiar with.  
> > TCP/IP just plain suffers from lack of reliability on long hauls, partly  
due  
> > to the fact that any ya-hoo with a C compiler can monkey with the code to  
> > his little heart's content.  
>  
> So you are saying that the user SHOULDN'T be allowed to even THINK about  
> doing anything more with packet than use a PBBS for messaging? \*HONK\*,  
> wrong answer, Contestant number 1!

Don't be stupid. That is not what was said. Forget messaging, consider  
realtime connects. We can do those now, over very long distances.  
But it is slow, it is hard to discover the routings to use, and it is  
often limited by the network owners.

> xNOS uses that SAME "store and forward" in the SAME way. It also has a  
> lot of more GOODIES, that in some parts of the country, the users are  
> using the GOODIES more than the PBBS features.

Yes, it can, as can any system with gateway capability. We have been doing  
this since at least 1983. It is still a rotten solution.

Please describe these "GOODIES". I for one have no clue what you are  
talking about, and in any case bet there is nothing new that is not  
already available.

> > Working on the assumption that the ham radio packet network isn't destroyed  
> > by the rather ignorant practice of internet message forwarding, that will  
> > leave things pretty much as they were a few years back, with the AX25 net  
> > covering the planet and a few small local nets here and there using TCP/IP.  
>  
> "destroyed"! Come on! You (from your message's own content) obviously  
> know very little about TCP/IP and littler about xNOS. That's fine.  
> Nothing wrong with that. Probably only know hat someone said it wasn't

> good, and you saw it was different than a PBBS.

Second the motion here: my own guess is 12 - 36 months before the ham radio network (the part that actually uses radios and RF) will be dead and gone. There is no longer much pressure to create that network, since it is so much simpler to just hook up a telephone. You don't need any license either ...

>  
> Difference is NOT evil and destructive! Didn't we learn this when \*WE\*  
> (packet radio) were looked down on by the "REAL" Amateurs, for being  
> [stupid|evil|destructive|silly|non-amateur] and even \*thinking\* about  
> that \*\*NEW\*\* thing called Packet. They thought it was just a phase, too.

Again, your misunderstanding is showing: the topic was not one ham radio mode versus another, but ham radio versus the telephone. I think we would all be interested in your response to this.

>  
> But, you see, this 'phase' can communicate with virtually ALL machines that  
> are now being sold, using software that is shipped with it, and software  
> that they can normally use to NETWORK their machines together with. They  
> can send/receive mail from their Ham friends from their work computer,  
> and chat in real-time with them, using OFF THE SHELF (or pre-installed)  
> software. They can EVEN send PBBS mail, from a machine that doesn't know  
> what a PBBS is.

Not "can" but "could". What you suggest is not yet possible, until someone writes some software. Yes, I'm aware of the efforts such as ETHERAX25 et al, but these are nowhere near close to an "OFF THE SHELF" solution by any stretch.

>  
> PBBS software isn't (and probably shouldn't be) integrated to that level.  
> TCP/IP \*IS\* (like it or not) a world-wide standard. ALL of the major OS  
> vendors not only support it, but are moving any operations/software that  
> \*doesn't\* support TCP/IP \*TOO\* it. Microsoft, Apple, Novell, and others  
> have made VERY public statements that TCP/IP is a MAJOR aspect of their  
> products.

Yes yes, we all know. SNA is also a world wide standard, as is DECNET, AppleTalk, and even BISYNC for heavens sake. So what? tcp/ip is simply one transport protocol among many. In the ham radio world, we tried the experiment and it failed: hams were unable to create a tcp/ip network. Instead we created an AX.25 network. You might want to consider WHY things happend this way. It's not the applications, it is the protocol: ip is simply not suitable for ham radio RF links.

<deletia>

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

### 33. Re: [BBSSIG:1027] Re: Linux, ect, ect, ect..

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 95 09:35:44 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507050935.ZM24540@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 2, 8:44am, Hank Pustarfi wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1027] Re: Linux, ect, ect, ect..

>  
> It is very difficult to make some feel there is a use for something  
> that they just do not understand. Sometimes is just not worth the effort  
> to try to explain. Those of us that have the interest will continue to  
> try evolve this into a real time network. No at times configuration and  
> operation is not easy. It will improve and it will get easier with time.  
> For those that want to use it fine. For those that do not, thats OK too.  
> Not everyone wants to develop things like DSP's and spread spectrum but  
> there coming to. Eventually they too will be enjoyed by all even if they

> do not understand the technology or even realize the use of it.

Don't bother with the "you don't understand it" nonsense.

I have a home page (and run an http server) on the ham radio network. No, you can't get to it from the internet, it is on ham radio not the telephone. Do people make use of it? No they do not. Why?

I also run the various other "traditional" unix services, and they get almost zero use. Wonder why that is?

The callbook server gets fairly heavy use, but it is on the AX.25 part of the network.

So yes, there are lots of whizzy neat applications available, and one can indeed make use of the over ham radio. To date, the ham radio user community has chosen to avoid the tcp/ip applications and choose the "other" applications. If the tcp/ip folks want their style of networking to grow, they have a big educational challenge ahead.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

### 34. Re: [BBSSIG:1051] Re: Linux, ect, ect, ect..

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 15:27:02 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507051559.y14681-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 5 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Jul 2, 12:25am, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:1023] Re: Linux, ect, ect..  
> > On Sat, 1 Jul 1995, charles brabham wrote:  
> >  
> > [ramblings, inaccuracies, narrow-mindedness and insults ommitted]  
> >  
> > Nothin' left to Charles' attack on me.....  
> >  
> > Obviously a waste of my time.....  
>  
> So Brian, does this mean you concede all points to Charles?  
>  
> That is what I understand from your post above.  
>  
> Ok ... it's a deal: Charles won, Brian lost.

I conceded nothing to Charles, other than he didn't listen to anything I said, and didn't merit responding to.

> Now let's get on with building a world-wide ham radio network.  
>  
> Let's even let the tcp/ip folks use it if they want.

Agreed!

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
    while (memory\_available) {  
        eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
        if (feel\_like\_it)  
            make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);  
        gates\_bank\_balance++;  
    }

### 35. Re: [BBSSIG:1052] Re: Linux, ect

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 15:34:39 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507051510.z14681-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 5 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> > Let me start by saying up front that I disagree with Charles (and others,  
> > notably Hank) who believe that the excellent PBBS messaging system \*is\* a  
> > network. Unless it allows real-time access (point-to-point) for users,  
> > messaging, and any OTHER uses, I don't believe it \*is\* a network. It is a  
> > messaging system, and a darn good one. A network point-to-point link that  
> > only allows two users and one type of usage is a dedicated point-to-point  
> > link, NOT a piece of network pipe. At least, that is my slant on it.  
>  
> Can you explain what you mean a little more clearly here.  
> What do you mean, for example, about "... only two users ..."?  
> Do you mean "applications" when you write "users"?

Well, a BBS is a USER of a network or an RF dedicated link. SO is a keyboardist, etc. A user is a user is a user, on a NETWORK.

> If your definition of "network" is the same as what others mean  
> by "realtime network" then I can somewhat understand what you are  
> getting at, but the issue is ONLY one of response time.  
>  
> Just trying to figure out what you are getting at.  
>  
> Clearly, the ham tcp/ip network falls down badly on this count: it is  
> very poorly connected, essentially does not exist at all except as a  
> higher level protocol running over other underlying protocols ... and  
> this should be no surprise: bet your Linux box uses, for example,  
> ethernet as the underlying protocol that ip requires to get it's work  
> done. Just like on ham radio where ip requires AX.25 or ROSE to get  
> it's work done.

Well, yes and no. Much of the existing PBBS forwarding system is based on point-to-point links between two PBBSs. If these were (instead) nodes or switches, then the point-to-point link is NOW part of the network.

I realize that many setups ARE configured as/with a node/switch, but a great many (maybe the majority) aren't.

The real-time connectivity stands no chance, as long as a link doesn't permit its usage....

> So this issue is really a straw man: were the AX.25 connectivity to exist,  
> then ip connectivity would also exist. The real problem is that NO real  
> connectivity exists. Why is that? The users have not wanted it badly  
> enough to spend the money to create it. The users are not very interested  
> in long haul realtime connectivity; at least not interested enough  
> to spend the bucks required to build the networks that will support it.

Absolutely agreed! We are lucky in Florida to have very good connectivity through the state and adjoining states via RF, and we have some dedicated fiber links to Chicago, Minneapolis, and Dallas, which allow our RF networks to join together. All this without the Internet gateway.

> > (Hank: I'd be glad to add in RLI compression support with the proper info)  
>

Meant this. If you will send me a copy of the spec (etc.) I'll look into adding it.....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available)    {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
```

}

### 36. Re: [BBSSIG:1055] Re: Linux, ect

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 95 13:05:17 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507051305.ZM24821@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 5, 2:45pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1055] Re: Linux, ect  
> On Wed, 5 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:  
>  
> > > Let me start by saying up front that I disagree with Charles (and others,  
> > > notably Hank) who believe that the excellent PBBS messaging system \*is\* a  
> > > network. Unless it allows real-time access (point-to-point) for users,  
> > > messaging, and any OTHER uses, I don't believe it \*is\* a network. It is a  
> > > messaging system, and a darn good one. A network point-to-point link that  
> > > only allows two users and one type of usage is a dedicated point-to-point  
> > > link, NOT a piece of network pipe. At least, that is my slant on it.  
> >  
> > Can you explain what you mean a little more clearly here.  
> > What do you mean, for example, about "... only two users ..."?  
> > Do you mean "applications" when you write "users"?  
>  
> Well, a BBS is a USER of a network or an RF dedicated link. SO is a  
> keyboardist, etc. A user is a user is a user, on a NETWORK.

I'll chop this response here, so we can try and focus on one thing,  
and get some resolution of that one thing.

Please explain what you meant by "... only two users ...".

Perhaps examples would help. I for one have no idea what  
you are talking about here, and some elucidation might help  
to move the discussion forward.

> > If your definition of "network" is the same as what others mean  
> > by "realtime network" then I can somewhat understand what you are  
> > getting at, but the issue is ONLY one of response time.  
> >  
> > Just trying to figure out what you are getting at.  
> >  
> > Clearly, the ham tcp/ip network falls down badly on this count: it is  
> > very poorly connected, essentially does not exist at all except as a  
> > higher level protocol running over other underlying protocols ... and  
> > this should be no surprise: bet your Linux box uses, for example,  
> > ethernet as the underlying protocol that ip requires to get it's work  
> > done. Just like on ham radio where ip requires AX.25 or ROSE to get  
> > it's work done.  
>  
> Well, yes and no. Much of the existing PBBS forwarding system is based on  
> point-to-point links between two PBBSSs. If these were (instead) nodes or  
> switches, then the point-to-point link is NOW part of the network.

Ah, perhaps now I'm starting to see what you are talking about.  
My response is a simple "Huh?", since I see no such network.  
It's all nodes and switches from where I sit, with the only  
dedicated single user links being those that run protocols which  
only allow for such operation, like AMTOR and CLOVER.

(As an aside: where is the CLOVER driver for NOS or BPQ so we can have  
multiple users across our dedicated CLOVER links?)

> I realize that many setups ARE configured as/with a node/switch, but a  
> great many (maybe the majority) aren't.

I disagree strongly. Please prove your point with some stats.  
> From where I sit in the network, I see zero (none, nil) of the kind  
of links you describe. Thus I would call these "non networked links"  
a rarity and network the norm.

> The real-time connectivity stands no chance, as long as a link doesn't  
> permit its usage....

See response to above.  
If you have lots of such links in your network, then fix your network.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

### 37. FBB & callbook server

From: Dave Wolf <wo5h>  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 15:32:00 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507052032.PAA13979@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Can anyone recommend a good callbook server using the SAM database for use with FBB? Where may it be found?

Thanks.

Dave W05H

---

### 38. RE: [BBSSIG:1057] FBB & callbook server

From: "JEFF S." <jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu>  
Date: Wed, 05 Jul 1995 18:40:41 EDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <00992E8F.4B5FC920.37@sae.ssu.umd.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Try e-mailing dave hess at dhess@umes.umd.edu  
He does FBB servers and he may have the SAM one.

Jeff

---

### 39. Re: [BBSSIG:1057] FBB & callbook server

From: David Hess NK3T <DHES@UMES.UMD.EDU>  
Date: Wed, 05 Jul 95 21:47:24 EDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507060157.VAA02302@umd5.umd.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 5 Jul 1995 15:42:20 -0500 Dave Wolf said:  
>Can anyone recommend a good callbook server using the SAM database for  
>use with FBB? Where may it be found?

>  
>Thanks.

>  
>Dave W05H

There are 3 flavors. I have one for the hard drive version, and one for the CD version. Both are PG interface types. The CD version allows lookup by name, call, city-state, and zip code for USA and Canada. The hard drive version does not support city or zip searches.

KJ4LQ also writes a SAM server, that is message based, as well as PG based. If you need more info, drop Ed a note.

I also have servers ( message and PG based ) for the QRZ CD ROM and the Buckmaster CD ROM. QRZ allows name,zip, city, and call searches for USA calls, and call searches for UK, Italy, and Canada. Buckmaster is call searches for over 100 countries.

I not only recommend them, I write them!

They are available at ftp.funet.fi in the /pub/ham/packet/bbs/f6fbb/database directory.

Dave NK3T

---

### 40. Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 21:16:44 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507060216.VAA15341@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain



On the Linux, TNOS stuff, I had jokingly inferred that Brian must have not have been too clever if he couldn't differentiate between landline use and RF.. Then it started to look like this might actually be the case, and then it wasn't so funny anymore. I decided to give the poor guy a break, before he blew a gasket or something.

Besides that, he wasn't much fun to debate with, since he had so much trouble sticking to the subject at hand and never directly answered most of the points which I put forward. He got blown away by the second exchange, and two go-rounds later he still hadn't figured it out. I got tired of repeating the same arguments on simpler and simpler terms, only to see them whizz right past him. The crawfishing, whining and complaining didn't impress me as valid arguments either, and it had devolved to where that was about all I was getting. ( Yawn )

Realizing that I'm not the world's foremost authority, I had hoped that maybe someone would jump in here on the BBSSIG with some new argument in favor of using Internet to forward ham radio traffic, explaining why my fears about it destroying the packet radio network were silly and groundless. Nobody came to Brian's rescue, though. The unpleasant facts still stare me ( and all hams ) in the face.

It wouldn't have hurt my feelings at all to be proved wrong.. It's a sobering prospect, and seeing the mindset of one of the "movers and shakers" in the recent trend of Internet forwarding of packet messages didn't do much to reassure me. I didn't come away from the exchange with the impression that these issues are in good hands, and I still see a difficult battle ahead if we are to retain a functional packet radio network. Because of this I came away with a bad taste in my mouth, despite having "won" the debate.

>From my viewpoint, the practise of forwarding packet messages through Internet appeals most to the lazy, shortsighted and ignorant aspects of human nature. That's tough to go up against, but not impossible.. It CAN be overcome with a sufficient dose of the facts.

Hoes 'em down! That'll break it up!

If the Internet forwarder guy misses the point, that's a shame but not a big problem. It's his PEERS, the average packet ops and hams who count most. When the facts become common knowledge, the I-net forwarder stops looking like a knowledgeable, dedicated ham and starts looking more like a shortsighted, uncaring kind of ham who's capable of putting his "ego" above the hobby. He's found a cheap way to "look good", and to heck with whoever gets hurt by it.

Put those egos in danger with a widespread dose of the facts, and these guys will drop I-net forwarding like a hot potato. They'll do it in droves. Make sure EVERYONE knows what's going on, who's doing it, and where it's taking ham radio, and there's a good chance we'll see this problem clear up.

I'm optimistic; I think most I-net forwarders will look harder for RF links once they understand where the I-net gates are leading us. Most of them genuinely have never had it occur to them, and have been convinced by TCP/IP devotees that they're doing a smart, useful thing.. These guys need to be informed. Most of them are pretty sharp, and will be much quicker than poor Brian to wake up and smell the coffee. It takes a man to admit you've been duped and are wrong. This will be an interesting time for I-net forwarders, as soon they will all be facing that test of manhood. ( It's the old Chinese curse! Interesting times.. )

Slowing down, stopping, then reversing the current rush to replace RF forwarding links with Internet gateways needs to happen QUICKLY if we want to still have a worldwide, or even a national packet radio network a couple of years from now.

If it's done QUICKLY, we can cut down on the number of toes being stepped on by the process and greatly reduce the amount of damage done to the ham packet net as well. This will give packet a shorter recovery time, so we can go back to the breakneck expansion we have become spoiled to. A shorter recovery time will also be best for the real hard-core Internet/Packet devotees, since they can then say "See? We didn't hurt you so bad!" instead of having to live down a long and difficult time of recovery, being constantly reminded of their folly.

I first pointed this problem out on packet a few months back, and got over 40 replies for hams who agreed with me and were glad to see somebody trying to do something about it. It was nice to get all those pats on the back, but a disappointment not to see any of these same guys getting out and spreading the word.

To a large degree, I still seem to be a "voice in the wilderness" after all this time.. That's not encouraging. I KNOW there's lots of hams out there who have much better technical backgrounds, writing talent, and "connections" than I can come up with, and to be honest I really am poor at giving presentations. This issue should SATURATE the upcoming ARRL Digital

Communications Conference in Arlington, TX, and I literally lack the talents needed to give this issue the presentation it deserves at the DCC...

( This is a subtle call for assistance... Any takers? If so, I'd be most happy to assist in any way I can, or even co-author a paper if the other guy would present it. I'm not particular about whether I'm personally involved, but strongly feel that SOMEONE who is an effective speaker should give everyone a wake-up call at the DCC, and I realize my own limitations. )

This subject deserves our time, trouble and attention. It should be brought up and debated over and over again, everywhere packet ops get together until the facts surrounding the issue become common knowledge. It's easy to debate the issue, since the facts supporting your argument are easy to understand and impossible to dispute. You guys who like being right, successfully going against "popular wisdom", and poking holes in sacred cows are missing a golden opportunity here, and you guys who have worked so hard to build the network are asleep at the switch.. You're missing a great opportunity to take some positive action now instead of seeing the results of your headaches, sweat and bucks go down the toilet.

When was the last time you had a chance to do something really positive for the network which wouldn't involve climbing a tower, struggling with software, hacking off your XYL or maxing out your bank account?

Be a ham now, and you'll still be able to be a ham tomorrow. Look the issue over, and if you see Internet forwarding of packet messages as a danger to the hobby, tell a few guys about it! Spreading around the facts and letting human nature take it's course is our best bet.

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet :    n5pvl@texoma.com

---

#### 41. Re: [BBSSIG:1056] Re: Linux, ect

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 22:23:57 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507052250.J14681-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 5 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> (As an aside: where is the CLOVER driver for NOS or BPQ so we can have  
> multiple users across our dedicated CLOVER links?)

Waiting for someone who owns one (not cheap) and uses it, to develop the driver.

> I disagree strongly. Please prove your point with some stats.  
> >From where I sit in the network, I see zero (none, nil) of the kind  
> of links you describe. Thus I would call these "non networked links"  
> a rarity and network the norm.

Well, you disagree, so let's just leave it at that.....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz    <http://www.lantz.com>    brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
    while (memory\_available) {  
        eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
        if (feel\_like\_it)  
            make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);  
        gates\_bank\_balance++;  
    }

---

#### 42. Re: [BBSSIG:1057] FBB & callbook server

From: moyers@ibm.net  
Date: Wed, 05 Jul 95 23:23:40  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507060630.AA0025@localhost>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> Can anyone recommend a good callbook server using the SAM database for  
> use with FBB? Where may it be found?  
>

> Dave W05H

Dave you want SAMQTH server written by David Hess NK3T. I believe you have already been given his INET ADR. His packet adr is NK3T@NK3T.MD.USA.NOAM. After using this program for the last year or so I am very satisfied with it.  
73  
John Moyers N4QEA  
moyers@ibm.net

---

#### 43. Re: [BBSSIG:1057] FBB & callbook server

From: faguilar@interserv.com  
Date: Wed, 5 Jul 1995 23:31:34 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507060431.AA00719@ ICSI.Net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello Dave,

I've been using the "SAM-FBB Interface" written by KJ4LQ for about a year and a half now. It allows you to send a message to "SAM" and will respond with a message back. You can also just type "SAM <call>" at the command prompt and get the same results. If you like, I can send you a copy.

73 de N5SSH

\*\*\*\*\*  
Frank R. Aguilar (N5SSH) INTERNET....: faguilar@interserv.com  
8727 Augusta Loop PACKET.....: N5SSH@N5SSH.#STX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Laredo, TX 78041-7526 TELEPHONE...: 210-726-3852  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

#### 44. RE: [BBSSIG:1060] Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>  
Date: Thu, 06 Jul 95 10:02:00 PDT  
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <2FFC1582@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

-----

>From: bbssig  
>To: bbssig  
>Subject: [BBSSIG:1060] Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet  
>Date: Wednesday, July 05, 1995 9:33PM  
>  
>

>On the Linux, TNOS stuff, I had jokingly inferred that Brian must have not  
>have been too clever if he couldn't differentiate between landline use and  
>RF..  
>Then it started to look like this might actually be the case, and then it  
>wasn't so funny anymore. I decided to give the poor guy a break, before he  
>blew a gasket or something.  
>Besides that, he wasn't much fun to debate with, since he had so much  
>trouble sticking to the subject at hand and never directly answered most of  
>the points which I put forward. He got blown away by the second exchange,  
>and two go-rounds later he still hadn't figured it out. I got tired of  
>repeating the same arguments on simpler and simpler terms, only to see  
>them  
>whizz right past him. The crawfishing, whining and complaining didn't  
>impress me as valid arguments either, and it had devolved to where that  
>was  
>about all I was getting. ( Yawn )  
>

Ditto... (yawn) I suspect Brian became so disinterested in this lack of  
interesting debate he just said NO...

>Realizing that I'm not the world's foremost authority, I had hoped that  
>maybe someone would jump in here on the BBSSIG with some new argument in

Now, that might be an interesting debate...

>favor of using Internet to forward ham radio traffic, explaining why my  
>fears about it destroying the packet radio network were silly and  
groundless.

Internet forwarding has been occurring for quite some time... No widespread  
destruction of the packet radio network in our area has occurred to the best  
of my knowledge.

>that these issues are in good hands, and I still see a difficult battle  
>ahead if we are to retain a functional packet radio network. Because of  
this  
>I came away with a bad taste in my mouth, despite having "won" the debate.

Pity, we don't have one of those "functional packet radio networks" at least  
not on a national level. Isolated lan pockets exist, but no national  
network.

There were some debates going on about what constitutes a network...  
The existing store-and-forward "network" doesn't allow me to have even  
a quasi-realtime conversation with a ham across the country, or login into  
a remote server somewhere to pull off the latest mod for for my new radio,  
so in that light, it is not a useful "network" to me.

>>From my viewpoint, the practise of forwarding packet messages through  
>Internet appeals most to the lazy, shortsighted and ignorant aspects of  
>human nature. That's tough to go up against, but not impossible.. It CAN be  
>overcome with a sufficient dose of the facts.

Depends on how quickly you need to pass your traffic... I'll make a crude  
assumption that your average SALE @ USA message is no longer valid  
after about 3 days (object has been sold or unsaleable to start with). Using  
an RF store-and-forward network, this message will be lucky to exit the  
state you're in due to the number of hops required to move that message  
in that time period. Therefore without HF, LL, or Internet forwarding there  
is almost no point in that message ever being forwarded out of the state  
to start with. So the sysop is shortsighted?, not hardly!, conscientious?  
YES!

<LOTS of uninteresting diatribe omitted>

>To a large degree, I still seem to be a "voice in the wilderness" after all  
>this time.. That's not encouraging. I KNOW there's lots of hams out there  
>who have much better technical backgrounds, writing talent, and  
>"connections" than I can come up with, and to be honest I really am poor at  
>giving presentations. This issue should SATURATE the upcoming ARRL Digital  
>Communications Conference in Arlington, TX, and I literally lack the  
talents  
>needed to give this issue the presentation it deserves at the DCC...

Maybe this should be telling you something... A lot of us do have strong  
technical backgrounds (reinforced daily by application in my case) and  
do not see the gloom-and-doom of your predictions as being realistic.  
"New" technologies should not be viewed as the enemy. Hams have a  
long history of using their creativity and inventiveness to use salvaged/  
available technology to solve everyday problems at a minimal cost.

<LOTS MORE uninteresting diatribe omitted>

>Be a ham now, and you'll still be able to be a ham tomorrow. Look the issue  
>over, and if you see Internet forwarding of packet messages as a danger to  
>the hobby, tell a few guys about it! Spreading around the facts and letting  
>human nature take it's course is our best bet.

This must be the mission statement for the old geezers of hamdom club,  
right?!?

Take a little look around and you will find a lot of the KDxxxx & KExxxx  
hams out

there who have already turned the hobby on its ear! Not to mention that  
these

guys are quickly becoming the KRxxx's, KSxxx's, ADxxx's, and AExxx's of the  
ham world. So just sit back in your easy chair, and let the world pass you  
by.

This sounds like the same attitude of all the guys that believe learning CW  
somehow makes you better technically (HA!) AND that they would be better  
operators because of it (better education would have a lot more effect).  
Spreading facts? NAW! , manure? MAYBE!

73

Mike N4CNW @ N4CNW.#TPA.FL.USA.NOAM

Amateur license: YES

Commercial license: YES, A LONG TIME AGO!

BSEE: YES

Tired of this BS: YES!

#### 45. Re: [BBSSIG:1060] Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 1995 10:35:22 +0100  
To: TAPR BBSSIG Mailing List <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507061027.K168-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am growing quite tired of being called silly, studid, and other things simply because I choose NOT to get into a debate about a subject I did not discuss. Someone who feels that the Internet is evil, should STOP using it.

Here are the ONLY portions of my original message that MENTIONED the Internet. I mentioned NOTHING about forwarding via it (which Charles went into great detail to flame me for). I mention NOTHING about replacing HF links with Internet ones.

The fact that I choose not to discuss any particular subject does not make me stupid, cowardly, or anything else. It means I am excercising my FREEDOM to ignore wasting my time with someone with an obviously closed mind.

Portions of my original message follow.....

-----  
Well, you have every Windows/WFW machine capable of using it. You have every Mac shipped with it. You will have every Window 95 machine and upgrade shipped with it. And of course the millions of machines connected to the Internet (oh, no.... The \*I\* word)....

Yes, the \*I\* word again. Yes, it's popular. Yes, SOME are leaving packet (or using it less) and moving to the \*I\* word. But, NO, they are not mutually exclusive and in most areas where there are Internet<->packet gateways, the interest of Packet radio goes UP geometrically. Also, as they use it more, they put up higher speed links and switches and nodes, and then ALL (even those "not-mutually-exclusive" PBBSSs) users gain from the interest and activities of those who may not be content with simple "several day turnaround" messaging....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
    while (memory_available) {
        eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
        if (feel_like_it)
            make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
        gates_bank_balance++;
    }
```

---

#### 46. Re: [BBSSIG:1065] Re: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)  
Date: Thu, 06 Jul 1995 12:01:29 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <01HSJS649WKYI3T1D6@tntech.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Brian writes (regarding Internet/packet gateways):

>But, NO, they are not  
>mutually exclusive and in most areas where there are Internet<->packet  
>gateways, the interest of Packet radio goes UP geometrically. Also, as  
>they use it more, they put up higher speed links and switches and nodes,  
>and then ALL (even those "not-mutually-exclusive" PBBSSs) users gain from  
>the interest and activities of those who may not be content with simple  
>"several day turnaround" messaging....

Like almost everything else, gateways are both good and bad. In our area the group with the Internet/packet gateway is tightly coupled to the group which is trying to build a high-speed RF backbone across the state. That's good. Some of the functions available through the gateway, in particular the converse node, have excited people about packet. That's good. After having a few people using it at the same time they've realized that the RF link to the gateway needs improvement. That's also good. It'll be bad when the gateway is the only thing that people care about.

Jeff, k9ja

---  
Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University  
jra1854@tntech.edu | Box 5004  
+1 615 372 3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

---

## 47. Network debate

From: willi\_r@mail.uwfax.edu  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 12:35:01 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507061735.AA04703@mail.uwfax.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I believe that it is very important to fully and openly discuss all the ramifications of networking and bbs operations. It is sure not boring to me. I am trying to read the different views and determine which direction is the right one for me. When I first found out that the packet system was not using rf all the way I was literally stunned and shocked. Then when I realized that the system was very, very poor as it was and was using all these various wormholes, internet gateways, etc, in order to even sustain so a poor network, I reasonably determined that was no other way than to increase the various internet connections in order to develop a workable system.

This system we have now is not a realistic system for me. Perhaps others are happy with many days delay and "some" problems with reliability of traffic deliveries but after I got on the internet I found packet to be very uninteresting and of almost no use at all in my case. What can I use it for that I can't use on internet? If it is a local ham I can call him LL or on vhf voice for a much more personal contact. If it is far away the time delays are not good. And the internet avoids the difficult local problem of serious turf battles that seem to always go on. Especially with bbs ops.

It would be wonderful if we could develop a real time continental or world wide packet rf delivery system, but it is currently not possible with our present ham technology.

Perhaps the dialog here would be much more reasoned with calm discussion instead of frequent attempts to find some phrase or quote from a previous post to attack.

Lets not attack, but question and ask for logical answers. Doesn't mean we have to agree but surely we can be pleasant to each other instead of abrasive insults.

So here are my main questions that I think is the crux of this entire debate:

1. Could someone who is a strong proponent of rf only links please explain their vision of how this can happen without geostationary satellite links?

2. How can we possibly develop real time connections when it is difficult enough to maintain a semi-reliable 9k6 link to the next major population area? (In our area about 150 miles each way).

3. What speeds are you envisioning. I can't imagine even one mpbs being adequate for serious cross continental backbones if we are going to have a rich flow of data types. This means that point to point microwave links are a must due to the needed bandwidth and avoidance of multipath.

4. In order for that to happen we would need national leadership to help guide and promote such a system in order that the connections can be created. One break in the chain and huge areas would be cut off. How would you do this? Is this practical to accomplish?

5. How is this better than the internet with its higher reliability, better security from mother nature, and workability during disasters? During a

disaster,  
how would you keep the amateur network operational. The internet has tons of professional expertise to repair and reroute traffic. How could we operate during emergencies with such a fragile system? (Not counting hf which in my view is the ace card for emergencies and that is another story in itself)

Hopefully, a lot of you will comment on this so we get a cross section of views from the movers and shakers of the networking/bbs world: namely, the readers of this sig.

Rick, KV9U

---

#### 48. Re: [BBSSIG:1064] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 1995 12:58:59 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507061758.MAA23271@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>>To a large degree, I still seem to be a "voice in the wilderness" after all  
>>this time.. That's not encouraging. I KNOW there's lots of hams out there  
>>who have much better technical backgrounds, writing talent, and  
>>"connections" than I can come up with, and to be honest I really am poor at  
>>giving presentations. This issue should SATURATE the upcoming ARRL Digital  
>>Communications Conference in Arlington, TX, and I literally lack the  
>talents  
>>needed to give this issue the presentation it deserves at the DCC...  
>  
>Maybe this should be telling you something... A lot of us do have strong  
>technical backgrounds (reinforced daily by application in my case) and  
>do not see the gloom-and-doom of your predictions as being realistic.  
>"New" technologies should not be viewed as the enemy. Hams have a  
>long history of using their creativity and inventiveness to use salvaged/  
>available technology to solve everyday problems at a minimal cost.  
>  
( Text omitted )  
  
>This sounds like the same attitude of all the guys that believe learning CW  
>somehow makes you better technically (HA!) AND that they would be better  
>operators because of it (better education would have a lot more effect).  
>Spreading facts? NAW! , manure? MAYBE!  
>  
>73  
>Mike N4CNW @ N4CNW.#TPA.FL.USA.NOAM  
>

Here, Mike displays his lack of knowlege concerning the issue I mentioned,  
and the fact that this lack doesn't bother him a bit.  
He also treats us with a few hackneyed catch-phrases which TCP/IP devotees  
like to reassure each other with.

Where's the BEEF, Mike?

If you disagree that the accelerating trend among AX25 BBS SYSOPs to use  
landlines ( Internet ) to forward packet messages in preference to RF links  
will adversely affect the existing framework of long-haul RF links, I'd like  
to hear your line of reasoning on this issue.

Don't forget to address each the following basic points:

1. Using a TNC/Radio is Ham Radio.. Using a modem/landline is not.
2. Hams currently have a digital network of thier own which covers most of the planet, using RF links. This network, while imperfect, represents one of ham radio's greatest achievements. This network's heart and "backbone" is represented by long-haul RF links. They are what makes it a ham RADIO network.
3. When a new Internet/packet message forwarding gateway is operated, the motivation to maintain or expand long-haul RF links is seriously affected. Following this, HF forwarders and hams who plan to build and maintain long-haul VHF/UHF networks find themselves lacking the support they had enjoyed before the I-net gate came online. This is how and why the RF long-haul digital net suffers to varying degrees at each I-net gate's location.
4. When an I-net gate takes over the message forwarding tasks from the RF components of the packet radio network in a given locale, overall throughput

of message traffic is greatly increased, making it difficult for hams to see the damage to the long-haul RF links which have been superceded by the landline.

5. When new I-net gates come online, the local RF network experiences a flush of new growth, to handle the sudden influx of @WW bulls. This in no way diminishes the damage done to the long-haul components of the RF network at that location.

6. In emergencies, radio will work when the landlines do not. Hams who cannot offer emergency communications because they are heavily dependent on landlines look silly as hell. They look silly to the local government and population, and they look silly to the FCC and Congress. This damages the reputation of all hams.

7. Radio spectrum is valuable stuff, but as hams we get lots of it for free. When commercial outfits can point out hams using and depending on landlines in preference to RF links, it greatly weakens our position and image with the FCC, and Congress. In these days of shrinking budgets and governmental money-grabs, this can lead directly to loss of spectrum.

8. The practise of using I-net gates to forward packet radio messages is very rapidly gaining in popularity. At each location, the long-haul RF links which comprise the heart of the worldwide ham radio digital net are adversely affected, and another leg of the RF net withers. This effect is very rapidly snowballing, and constitutes a clear danger to the packet radio network's integrity.

OK, Mike, Brian, or whoever wants to "step up"... Tell me why I'm wrong.

If you can't, then be a big boy and admit it, at least to yourself.

Remember that crawfishing, whining, and parroting of neat-sounding but unsound catch-phrases won't impress anyone, especially me. Come up with serious answers, which are directly related to the points outlined above.

Bet you can't do it!

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 49. Re: [BBSSIG:1067] Network debate

From: Dave Wolf <wo5h>  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 1995 13:37:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507061838.NAA26348@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

It is human nature to rush to solve problems without coming up with a plan of attack. Ham's solution to the lack of an international real-time network was to develop store-and-forward BBS operation and to use Internet/wormhole/LL gateways and forwarding. Necessity is the mother of invention. It is wise to take stock and continually ask ourselves "is there a balance between expediency and what is good for the future of ham radio?" That is what this debate/discussion is moving towards.

As long as there is an easier way to do things, shortcuts will be taken. It looks like the ham network is evolving into a combination of local and regional RF access with long-haul paths using non-ham means. Bottom line is I think most folks who are concerned with this wonder if it undermines our spectrum assignments because we are not using RF for all communications. Plus, why will people who want to COMMUNICATE be satisfied with RF paths if they compare speed with purely LL/Internet paths?

None of us can predict the future, and we don't know how our use of non-ham links impresses the FCC (either favorably or unfavorably). WE also don't know if, once given a taste of the Internet, a mass exodus from the ham digital modes will take place. Speaking of my own experience, ham digital still is fascinating even though the Internet and CompuServe take care of my serious digital communications needs. Ham digital is a diversion, an opportunity to learn, and a means to stay socially involved with other hams. I continue to spend money I shouldn't on ham and packet gear because I still enjoy the activity. Certainly, others on the SIG and active in this phase of the hobby do the same and feel the same. Ham radio is not and can never be a substitute for commercial networks. There is no harm in trying to EMULATE to performance of the commercial services and holding them up as design paradigms. All of us who participate as builders of networks and service



providers can be proud of what we have accomplished with limited resources. We can look forward to future challenges as we expand and maintain our digital networks. Enjoy the process and learn from it. The process, in ham radio, should be as much fun or more fun than arriving at our destination, whatever that may be.

Dave W05H

---

## 50. Re: [BBSSIG:1049] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: pipe2@oeonline.com  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 17:13 EDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sTyEy-000ASzC@oeonline.oeonline.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank is right about this site, it is one of the best Linux sites around (home of the Linux documentation project). One minor typo to fix for you: the correct address is sunsite.unc.edu You can also go to <http://www.sunsite.unc.edu> if you have web access. It is pretty much just a graphical http version of the FTP site, but there are also some links to other Linux-related sites.

-Bill kb8wyp

>Gary McDuffie's words were:  
>>  
>>  
>> Okay. I've come into the middle of this argument but you have my  
>> interest. I've also had one of my users come to me with questions about  
>> Linux that were generated by (I think), a QEX article. Where can a total  
>> novice go to find the most basic information on what, why, where, how to  
>> use, etc. Linux? The way this discussion has been going, it's getting to  
>> be too big to ignore.  
>>  
>> Gary  
>>  
>  
>Look at sunsite.unc.edu:/pub/Linux/docs/faqs|HOWTO  
>  
>Good info there..  
>  
>  
>Hank Pustarfi                      k3wgiv@k3wgiv.ampr.org                      hank@cospc.com

---

## 51. RE: [BBSSIG:1068] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: Murphree Michael A <mamurphree@space.honeywell.com>  
Date: Thu, 06 Jul 95 17:47:00 PDT  
To: bbssig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <2FFC8260@smtpdos.space.honeywell.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

In reply to Charles Brabham's scribblings, the first reply was lost due to an inadvertent press of the reset key.. so this one is shorter!

>Here, Mike displays his lack of knowlege concerning the issue I mentioned,  
>and the fact that this lack doesn't bother him a bit.

Addressed later...

>He also treats us with a few hackneyed catch-phrases which TCP/IP devotees  
>like to reassure each other with.

Name one... Looked back through the reply and didn't see any..

>If you disagree that the accelerating trend among AX25 BBS SYSOPs to use  
>landlines ( Internet ) to forward packet messages in preference to RF links  
>will adversely affect the existing framework of long-haul RF links, I'd  
like  
>to hear your line of reasoning on this issue.

After reading your entire reply, I find that your general argument is that the internet gateways are detrimental to HF forwarding... I will not deny that there may be some possible effects to HF stations now, however the HF store-and-forward "network" doesn't satisfy either the bandwidth requirements of a national network or the desired applications of its users. Due to the current rules and regulations of the FCC on bandwidth, emission types and available frequencies, it is unlikely that it ever will.

Some may feel that it is worth the time and money to continue investing in that technology, but I do not. The VHF/UHF/microwave bands hold much more promise for a network at the national level.

>Don't forget to address each the following basic points:

>

>1. Using a TNC/Radio is Ham Radio.. Using a modem/landline is not.

>

>2. Hams currently have a digital network of thier own which covers most of the planet, using RF links. This network, while imperfect, represents one of

>ham radio's greatest achievements. This network's heart and "backbone" is represented by long-haul RF links. They are what makes it a ham RADIO network.

A very loosely connected network at best. Since this network is mainly HF-based for the "long-haul" links, it is only available when propagation permits and only to the store-and-forward stations and not the end users in most cases. This does not depict a usable network for a user point of view.

>3. When a new Internet/packet message forwarding gateway is operated, the motivation to maintain or expand long-haul RF links is seriously affected.

>Following this, HF forwarders and hams who plan to build and maintain long-haul VHF/UHF networks find themselves lacking the support they had enjoyed before the I-net gate came online. This is how and why the RF long-haul digital net suffers to varying degrees at each I-net gate's location.

Support?? You mean you expect your users to pay for your gear? That's a completely different ETHICAL issue.

>4. When an I-net gate takes over the message forwarding tasks from the RF components of the packet radio network in a given locale, overall throughput

>of message traffic is greatly increased, making it difficult for hams to see

>the damage to the long-haul RF links which have been superceded by the landline.

>From what I've seen these systems can coexist just fine... maybe the HF system operator just doesn't receive quite the notoriety that he once did and becomes disgruntled about it?

>5. When new I-net gates come online, the local RF network experiences a flush of new growth, to handle the sudden influx of @WW bulls. This in no way diminishes the damage done to the long-haul components of the RF network at that location.

Ok, so the local network gets a boost... We've seen this here. How does this hurt you??

>6. In emergencies, radio will work when the landlines do not. Hams who cannot offer emergency communications because they are heavily dependent on landlines look silly as hell. They look silly to the local government and population, and they look silly to the FCC and Congress. This damages the reputation of all hams.

When Hurricane Andrew passed through the Homestead/Miami area, most of the amateur and commercial radio and television sites were destroyed and no longer able to function, but the phone lines remained functional... Who looks silly now?? More in #7...

>7. Radio spectrum is valuable stuff, but as hams we get lots of it for free.

>When commercial outfits can point out hams using and depending on landlines in preference to RF links, it greatly weakens our position and image with the FCC, and Congress. In these days of shrinking budgets and governmental money-grabs, this can lead directly to loss of spectrum.

The two main covenants of Amateur Radio's existence that of emergency service and advancing the state-of-the-art have fallen by the wayside long ago. Both are now performed by other organizations much better and efficiently (and

with  
a heck of a lot less bickering about it). Hams better think of some better  
ways  
to justify their existence soon.

>8. The practise of using I-net gates to forward packet radio messages is  
>very rapidly gaining in popularity. At each location, the long-haul RF  
links  
>which comprise the heart of the worldwide ham radio digital net are  
>adversely affected, and another leg of the RF net withers. This effect is  
>very rapidly snowballing, and constitutes a clear danger to the packet  
radio  
>network's integrity.

This reminds of something I was told by another individual when I was in  
college. He said that "The only thing that holds this building together is  
the termites holding hands". This glorious network that you keep referring  
to is not much better than this at the national level. Sure some local  
pockets (even states in some places) of network exist, but the national  
stuff based on HF links stinks. Why not invest a little time and effort  
into establish a 24hr/day reliable network? This in no way precludes  
or eliminates internet gateway stations as a lot of users find these to  
be FUN. Besides if the gateway unloads the network from carrying  
all the mundane BBS-load of crap that gets sent, the more bandwidth  
will be available to the users.

73  
Mike N4CNW

---

## 52. Re: [BBSSIG:1067] Network debate

From: pipe2@oeonline.com  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 18:02 EDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sTz0d-000A8PC@oeonline.oeonline.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>1. Could someone who is a strong proponent of rf only links please explain  
>their vision  
>of how this can happen without geostationary satellite links?

In the Network SIG there has been a little bit of discussion about  
geostationary sat links. The problem is these are SUPER EXPENSIVE and  
difficult to develop/construct/launch. It will probably happen someday.

>2. How can we possibly develop real time connections when it is difficult  
>enough to maintain a semi-reliable 9k6 link to the next major population  
>area? (In our area  
>about 150 miles each way).

Three ways: multi-hop (i.e. repeating sites --NOT digi's, but full-duplex  
digital repeaters) point-to-point links, satellites, and our ol' buddy HF.

>3. What speeds are you envisioning. I can't imagine even one mpbs being  
>adequate for  
>serious cross continental backbones if we are going to have a rich flow of  
>data types.  
>This means that point to point microwave links are a must due to the needed  
>bandwidth  
>and avoidance of multipath.

Microwave is the ONLY way to handle multi-megabit per second links, and  
point-to-point microwave links are the answer to inter-city links. The  
problem is money (again).

>4. In order for that to happen we would need national leadership to help  
>guide and promote such a system in order that the connections can be  
>created. One break in the chain and huge areas would be cut off. How would  
>you do this? Is this practical to  
>accomplish?

This can be avoided the same way the Internet deals with failures: reroutes.  
If you have, say, 5 cities, each with at least two links to other cities  
(each link going to a different city), you can handle single-point failures  
easily. If one link fails between cities A and B, then the data is simply  
rerouted so that it flows cityA -> cityC -> cityB through the alternate  
routes. Available bandwidth decreases a bit, but network integrity remains  
good. This is easily accomplished with TCP/IP since the protocol was  
designed for this exact thing.

>5. How is this better than the internet with its higher reliability, better  
>security from mother nature, and workability during disasters? During a  
>disaster,  
>how would you keep the amateur network operational. The internet has tons of  
>professional expertise to repair and reroute traffic. How could we operate  
>during  
>emergencies with such a fragile system? (Not counting hf which in my view  
is the  
>ace card for emergencies and that is another story in itself)

This is similar to the above question's answer... If we build a packet network based on the structure of the Internet (but NOT the Internet itself), we will have essentially a second Internet that is RF-based. This is difficult and expensive, but the rewards would be tremendous. HF doesn't provide the bandwidth to maintain a high-speed real-time network, but it is the only way to go L-O-N-G distances is one hop. It is the ultimate backup/secondary path. HF links are needed incase of major emergencies that wipe out the high-speed microwave links. In the event of an emergency, the system automatically reroutes data that normally flows through high-speed microwave links through HF links instead. Again, available bandwidth decreases, but network integrity remains good. No one type of link can be allowed to become the ONLY link around since this does not allow for much in the way of fault tolerance.

Internet links are a good short-term solution (i.e. workable while other solutions are implemented), but it is not a good long-term solution. All of the Internet's expertise cannot solve it's one MAJOR downfall: if bad weather strikes, and lines go down, Internet links WILL FAIL. RF can penetrate just about anything in the way of bad weather, so it is much more reliable. Internet links should always remain a part of the packet network since they do add to it. The problem is when everyone starts to rely on the Internet links \*instead\* of the RF links. The Internet links should be secondary routes, and there mainly to allow access to Internet-only services (like Yahoo on the web and the type of stuff). RF should be the \*primary\* path for packet data, with secondary RF routes as well. I would love to see a multi-megabit national backbone be built so that a real network like this could be built.

-Bill kb8wyp

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### 53. Re: [BBSSIG:1061] Re: Linux, ect

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 11:56:21 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507061156.ZM27036@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 5, 9:35pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

> > I disagree strongly. Please prove your point with some stats.  
> > >From where I sit in the network, I see zero (none, nil) of the kind  
> > of links you describe. Thus I would call these "non networked links"  
> > a rarity and network the norm.  
>  
> Well, you disagree, so let's just leave it at that.....

Well, let's NOT just leave it at that. You made a claim, and I responded that your claim is false. Now either you agree that you were misinformed or ignorant, or back your claim up with some data.

Here is a bit of data for you: in the Pacific Northwest (defined as roughly the N. border of CA north to the Tundra, and east to the western portions of AB/ID/UT, there are roughly 10 packet switches of the roughly 500 packet switches that have closed links. The switches that have closed links ALL run tcp/ip and are located in the Seattle metro area. How do I know this? I've run software once a quarter for many years that traverses the network and reports on resources found. The network traverses cover a LARGER area than the PNW, but the stats certainly look something like "10 closed switches for every 500 switches". The stats are not presently gathered by switch port, but that could be changed. Assuming each switch has four ports, we see that of the roughly 2000 radios on air in the PNW network, perhaps 40 of them are unavailable to the average user. Of those, ALL are unavailable because people running tcp/ip CHOOSE to make them unavailable.

Now Brian, let's see some of your stats.

You make these claims: either back them up with data, or please

go away so us folks who are building HAM RADIO networks can get on with it.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

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## 54. Re: [BBSSIG:1071] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 1995 19:48:39 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507070048.TAA07218@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>In reply to Charles Brabham's scribblings, the first reply was lost due  
>to an inadvertent press of the reset key.. so this one is shorter!  
>  
>>Here, Mike displays his lack of knowlege concerning the issue I mentioned,  
>>and the fact that this lack doesn't bother him a bit.  
>  
>Addressed later...  
>  
>>He also treats us with a few hackneyed catch-phrases which TCP/IP devotees  
>>like to reassure each other with.  
>  
>Name one... Looked back through the reply and didn't see any..  
>  
It was old one about " Hams being frightened of new technology," and so on.  
( Particularly inappropriate when mentioned in connection with TCP/IP and  
landline modems.. Both are old hat. )  
  
>>If you disagree that the accelerating trend among AX25 BBS SYSOPs to use  
>>landlines ( Internet ) to forward packet messages in preference to RF links  
>>will adversely affect the existing framework of long-haul RF links, I'd  
>like  
>>to hear your line of reasoning on this issue.  
>  
>After reading your entire reply, I find that your general argument is that  
>the internet gateways are detrimental to HF forwarding... I will not deny  
>that there may be some possible effects to HF stations now, however the  
>HF store-and-forward "network" doesn't satisfy either the bandwidth  
>requirements of a national network or the desired applications of its users.  
>Due to the current rules and regulations of the FCC on bandwidth,  
>emission types and available frequencies, it is unlikely that it ever will.  
>  
>Some may feel that it is worth the time and money to continue investing  
>in that technology, but I do not. The VHF/UHF/microwave bands hold  
>much more promise for a network at the national level.  
>

Correction: It doesn't satisfy the requirements of landline network users.  
For most if not purposes related to ham radio, the present network is good  
enough. In cases where it ISN'T good enough, throwing your hands up and  
abandoning RF links is hardly the answer.

I agree that HF has ultimate limits, but don't personally feel we have  
bumped up against that wall yet. There IS room for improvement in the way we  
currently utilize HF.

I also agree that the VHF/UHF/Microwave stuff is the best bet for the  
purpose of increasing throughput and long-term reliability.. BUT that  
supposes that we all go on a massive building campaign that's unlikely to  
happen if we're saturated with I-net gates.

The high-speed VHF/UHF/Microwave links you describe are expensive, require a  
lot of sweat and brains, and MOTIVATION to come into being. I-net gates sap  
us of much of our motivation to do such things, by removing both the NEED,  
and our sense of pride as hams.

>>Don't forget to address each the following basic points:  
>>  
>>1. Using a TNC/Radio is Ham Radio.. Using a modem/landline is not.  
>>  
>>2. Hams currently have a digital network of thier own which covers most of  
>>the planet, using RF links. This network, while imperfect, represents one

>of  
>>ham radio's greatest achievements. This network's heart and "backbone" is  
>>represented by long-haul RF links. They are what makes it a ham RADIO  
>network.  
>  
>A very loosely connected network at best. Since this network is mainly  
>HF-based  
>for the "long-haul" links, it is only available when propagation permits and  
>only to  
>the store-and-forward stations and not the end users in most cases.  
>This does not depict a usable network for a user point of view.

I see you kinda "skipped by" point number one. I knew you would. ;-)

Yes, I agree that the packet radio network is slower than the landlines.  
Despite this, it's amazing how many hams DO find it to be usable.  
Who are you to dismiss the ham radio digital net, Bub? What have you got to  
offer for the advancement of ham radio? A telephone modem?  
Is "give up and let Ma Bell handle it" your idea of advancing Ham Radio? How  
ignorant and spineless of you, old man!

>>3. When a new Internet/packet message forwarding gateway is operated, the  
>>motivation to maintain or expand long-haul RF links is seriously affected.  
>>Following this, HF forwarders and hams who plan to build and maintain  
>>long-haul VHF/UHF networks find themselves lacking the support they had  
>>enjoyed before the I-net gate came online. This is how and why the RF  
>>long-haul digital net suffers to varying degrees at each I-net gate's  
>>location.  
>  
>Support?? You mean you expect your users to pay for your gear? That's  
>a completely different ETHICAL issue.

There's more to "support" than just bucks, Mike. Do you do tower work  
without a ground crew? Do you install new equipment in your area just for  
grins, or because the new installation will serve a NEED? The very NEED for  
services constitutes support. Hams whom know something is NEEDED will spend  
thier bucks, cooperate with each other, and break a sweat to see something done.  
Internet gates reduce or eliminate the strong NEED to improve RF services,  
effectively short-circuiting our best source of motivation.

>  
>>4. When an I-net gate takes over the message forwarding tasks from the RF  
>>components of the packet radio network in a given locale, overall  
>>throughput  
>>of message traffic is greatly increased, making it difficult for hams to  
>>see  
>>the damage to the long-haul RF links which have been superceded by the  
>>landline.  
>  
>>From what I've seen these systems can coexist just fine... maybe the HF  
>system  
>operator just doesn't receive quite the notoriety that he once did and  
>becomes  
>disgruntled about it?

It goes deeper than that, Mike, and you know it. Again, you kinda "skipped  
around" the main point above, and didn't have an answer for it. The damage  
to our network "creeps up" on us, masked by the throughput improvement  
provided by the landline link.

>>5. When new I-net gates come online, the local RF network experiences a  
>>flush of new growth, to handle the sudden influx of @WW bulls. This in no  
>>way diminishes the damage done to the long-haul components of the RF  
>network  
>>at that location.  
>  
>Ok, so the local network gets a boost... We've seen this here.  
>How does this hurt you??

Read the second sentence in the point above.. I guess you kinda "skipped  
over" something again, Mike. You're not shaping up to be a much better  
debator than poor Brian..

>>6. In emergencies, radio will work when the landlines do not. Hams who  
>>cannot offer emergency communications because they are heavily dependent on  
>>landlines look silly as hell. They look silly to the local government and  
>>population, and they look silly to the FCC and Congress. This damages the  
>>reputation of all hams.  
>

>When Hurricane Andrew passed through the Homestead/Miami area, most  
>of the amateur and commercial radio and television sites were destroyed and  
>no longer able to function, but the phone lines remained functional..  
>Who looks silly now?? More in #7...

You do, if you think that this will always ( or even usually ) be the case.

By the way; When you use Internet to help during an emergency, how come the local government and police can't just use internet themselves? You know what? I bet they have telephone modems too! Better check on this..

>>7. Radio spectrum is valuable stuff, but as hams we get lots of it for  
>free.  
>>When commercial outfits can point out hams using and depending on landlines  
>>in preference to RF links, it greatly weakens our position and image with  
>>the FCC, and Congress. In these days of shrinking budgets and governmental  
>>money-grabs, this can lead directly to loss of spectrum.  
>  
>The two main covenants of Amateur Radio's existence that of emergency  
>service  
>and advancing the state-of-the-art have fallen by the wayside long ago.  
> Both  
>are now performed by other organizations much better and efficiently (and  
>with  
>a heck of a lot less bickering about it). Hams better think of some better  
>ways  
>to justify their existence soon.

So, if I understand you correctly; The telephone is cheaper, faster and easier than building nodes and using radios, so we oughta dump the radios and quit being hams. There is no longer any purpose to ham radio, so we oughta throw away our tickets, our radios, and buy landline modems. A golden No-Radio future awaits Ham Radio..

Did I express your general line of "reasoning" correctly, Mike? If not, exactly what ARE you saying? Do you know?

>>8. The practise of using I-net gates to forward packet radio messages is  
>>very rapidly gaining in popularity. At each location, the long-haul RF  
>links  
>>which comprise the heart of the worldwide ham radio digital net are  
>>adversely affected, and another leg of the RF net withers. This effect is  
>>very rapidly snowballing, and constitutes a clear danger to the packet  
>radio  
>>network's integrity.  
>  
>This reminds of something I was told by another individual when I was in  
>college. He said that "The only thing that holds this building together is  
>the termites holding hands". This glorious network that you keep referring  
>to is not much better than this at the national level. Sure some local  
>pockets (even states in some places) of network exist, but the national  
>stuff based on HF links stinks. Why not invest a little time and effort  
>into establish a 24hr/day reliable network? This in no way precludes  
>or eliminates internet gateway stations as a lot of users find these to  
>be FUN. Besides if the gateway unloads the network from carrying  
>all the mundane BBS-load of crap that gets sent, the more bandwidth  
>will be available to the users.  
>  
>73  
>Mike N4CNW  
>  
>

As I predicted, you were unable to answer the points I outlined.

Next!

The offer still stands, guys! See [BBSSIG:1068] to see a copy of this challenge which Mike hasn't "piddled on" yet...

73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

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## 55. Re: [BBSSIG:1071] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 18:07:59 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <9507061807.ZM27568@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 6, 5:03pm, Murphree Michael A wrote:

<deletia>

>

> After reading your entire reply, I find that your general argument is that  
> the internet gateways are detrimental to HF forwarding... I will not deny  
> that there may be some possible effects to HF stations now, however the  
> HF store-and-forward "network" doesn't satisfy either the bandwidth  
> requirements of a national network or the desired applications of its users.  
> Due to the current rules and regulations of the FCC on bandwidth,  
> emission types and available frequencies, it is unlikely that it ever will.

The issue is not only "HF forwarding", it is any form of long distance networking. Here in the PNW, we had a case where two sysops decided it was better to use the LL than to help repair a long haul uhf/vhf link. For over a year, they spent money on Ma Bell, at the rate of \$150 per month each. That's \$3600 total, more than was needed to fix the radios.

But gee! It was EASY, it was QUICK, nobody had to go out in the rain, and it was FAST. Of course no keyboard activity could take place across this "LL Lids" link, and there was much less pressure on the users to help build network ("Why should I donate money to the club to fix the radio on the mountain? All MY messages are getting through just fine.")

It is now two years later, the sysops decided it was too much money per month to keep the "LL Lids" link going, and the radios are finally going to be fixed. The network as a whole is \$3600 and two years development poorer because of the behavior of these sysops, and because the user community ACCEPTED commercial links in place of HAM RADIO links.

> Some may feel that it is worth the time and money to continue investing  
> in that technology, but I do not. The VHF/UHF/microwave bands hold  
> much more promise for a network at the national level.

Nobody has argued against moving links that now use HF over to vhf/uhf. The argument was against using "LL Lids" links IN PLACE of radio links.

<deletia>

> Support?? You mean you expect your users to pay for your gear? That's  
> a completely different ETHICAL issue.

I can only speak for the PNW. We expect users to help create the network by supplying gear, by helping install gear, and by taking part in network planning. You have confused the issue by the "... your gear". The users support the network by donating resources to the network as a whole.

Oh yeah ... BBS sysops are users too ... just like anyone else that pipes data across the network. The important point is to avoid the thinking that leads you to "... your users to pay for your gear". They are not "my users", they are just other hams who I allow to use my gear. I use theirs in return, when they place it on the network in a coordinated manner.

> >4. When an I-net gate takes over the message forwarding tasks from the RF  
> >components of the packet radio network in a given locale, overall  
> >throughput  
> >of message traffic is greatly increased, making it difficult for hams to  
> >see  
> >the damage to the long-haul RF links which have been superceded by the  
> >landline.  
>  
> >From what I've seen these systems can coexist just fine... maybe the HF  
> >system  
> >operator just doesn't receive quite the notoriety that he once did and  
> >becomes  
> >disgruntled about it?

Forget "HF" and think "longer haul". We don't get "disgruntled" we see all the traffic go away. When that happens, we shut down the radios, and use them for other things, like DXing. This removes the "HAM RADIO" portion of the network, and removes all possibility of using the network in emergencies, because the network is not there anymore.

> >5. When new I-net gates come online, the local RF network experiences a  
> >flush of new growth, to handle the sudden influx of @WW bulls. This in no



> >way diminishes the damage done to the long-haul components of the RF  
> network  
> >at that location.  
>  
> Ok, so the local network gets a boost... We've seen this here.  
> How does this hurt you??  
>  
> >6. In emergencies, radio will work when the landlines do not. Hams who  
> >cannot offer emergency communications because they are heavily dependent on  
> >landlines look silly as hell. They look silly to the local government and  
> >population, and they look silly to the FCC and Congress. This damages the  
> >reputation of all hams.  
>  
> When Hurricane Andrew passed through the Homestead/Miami area, most  
> of the amateur and commercial radio and television sites were destroyed and  
> no longer able to function, but the phone lines remained functional...  
> Who looks silly now?? More in #7...

The implication is that there is no longer a role for ham radio in emergency communications. If true, this removes one of the justifications for building a long haul network.

> >7. Radio spectrum is valuable stuff, but as hams we get lots of it for  
> free.  
> >When commercial outfits can point out hams using and depending on landlines  
> >in preference to RF links, it greatly weakens our position and image with  
> >the FCC, and Congress. In these days of shrinking budgets and governmental  
> >money-grabs, this can lead directly to loss of spectrum.  
>  
> The two main covenants of Amateur Radio's existence that of emergency  
> service  
> and advancing the state-of-the-art have fallen by the wayside long ago.  
> Both  
> are now performed by other organizations much better and efficiently (and  
> with  
> a heck of a lot less bickering about it). Hams better think of some better  
> ways  
> to justify their existence soon.

I expressed my opinion in another response, but think it is valid here also: within 18-36 months, there will no longer be a global ham RADIO network. Hams (and anyone else who wants to take part) will use the "LL Lids" network, with a few local vhf/uhf ports to support local user connectivity into the commercial networks.

> >8. The practise of using I-net gates to forward packet radio messages is  
> >very rapidly gaining in popularity. At each location, the long-haul RF  
> links  
> >which comprise the heart of the worldwide ham radio digital net are  
> >adversely affected, and another leg of the RF net withers. This effect is  
> >very rapidly snowballing, and constitutes a clear danger to the packet  
> radio  
> >network's integrity.  
>  
> This reminds of something I was told by another individual when I was in  
> college. He said that "The only thing that holds this building together is  
> the termites holding hands". This glorious network that you keep referring  
> to is not much better than this at the national level. Sure some local  
> pockets (even states in some places) of network exist, but the national  
> stuff based on HF links stinks. Why not invest a little time and effort  
> into establish a 24hr/day reliable network? This in no way precludes  
> or eliminates internet gateway stations as a lot of users find these to  
> be FUN. Besides if the gateway unloads the network from carrying  
> all the mundane BBS-load of crap that gets sent, the more bandwidth  
> will be available to the users.

Huh? It's the users that SEND and READ these messages. This is what the users WANT TO DO. However, the fact that someone might find a commercial network "fun" has nothing at all to do with ham radio.

This commercial network (the one we are using to discuss networking) is lots of fun too ... but it has little to do with ham radio.

How about moving this discussion over to the HAM RADIO network so that we can get the opinions of the users of THAT NETWORK? Or is this just a "LL Lids" network discussion?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
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Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

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## 56. Re: [BBSSIG:1064] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 12:07:11 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507061207.ZM27059@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 6, 9:16am, Murphree Michael A wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1064] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

..  
>

> Depends on how quickly you need to pass your traffic... I'll make a crude  
> assumption that your average SALE @ USA message is no longer valid  
> after about 3 days (object has been sold or unsaleable to start with). Using  
> an RF store-and-forward network, this message will be lucky to exit the  
> state you're in due to the number of hops required to move that message  
> in that time period. Therefore without HF, LL, or Internet forwarding there  
> is almost no point in that message ever being forwarded out of the state  
> to start with. So the sysop is shortsighted?, not hardly!, conscientious?  
> YES!

Nobody has argued against HAM RADIO networking of any kind (e.g. HF).  
However, if the sysop thinks he is doing the HAM RADIO network a favor  
by BYPASSING it and using commercial networks, he is nuts.

We have lost three HF systems to the "LL Lids" in the past year.  
They just shut it down: "Who needs it, the telephone is faster."

I expect to shut mine down in 12-36 months, since the "LL Lids"  
links have taken almost all the traffic I USED to forward and now  
shovel it over good old Ma Bell. "But Hank, it is faster." you say.  
Yup, it is. It is also not RADIO is it?

> Maybe this should be telling you something... A lot of us do have strong  
> technical backgrounds (reinforced daily by application in my case) and  
> do not see the gloom-and-doom of your predictions as being realistic.  
> "New" technologies should not be viewed as the enemy. Hams have a  
> long history of using their creativity and inventiveness to use salvaged/  
> available technology to solve everyday problems at a minimal cost.

What "new technology"? Tell us how the "LL Lids" are using "new technology",  
and what part of the HAM RADIO state of the art they advance.

> This must be the mission statement for the old geezers of hamdom club,  
> right?!?  
> Take a little look around and you will find a lot of the KDxxxx & KExxxx  
> hams out  
> there who have already turned the hobby on its ear! Not to mention that  
> these  
> guys are quickly becoming the KRxxx's, KSxxx's, ADxxx's, and AExxx's of the  
> ham world. So just sit back in your easy chair, and let the world pass you  
> by.

Ok, your bluff is called: give us the EXAMPLES you claim exist.  
Who has done what to advance HAM RADIO? Callsigns and accomplishments  
please, but leave out the "LL Lids" - it does not take a license or  
a radio to do that simple stuff.

> This sounds like the same attitude of all the guys that believe learning CW  
> somehow makes you better technically (HA!) AND that they would be better  
> operators because of it (better education would have a lot more effect).  
> Spreading facts? NAW! , manure? MAYBE!

CW over the telephone?  
Take that straw man right out and burn it.

> 73

> Mike N4CNW @ N4CNW.#TPA.FL.USA.NOAM  
>  
> Amateur license: YES  
> Commercial license: YES, A LONG TIME AGO!  
> BSEE: YES  
> Tired of this BS: YES!  
>

1. Nobody forced you to either read or respond.
2. Your response was contentless, please try again with content.
3. What do you suggest we do to move the HAM RADIO hobby forward?  
Put up more home pages on the www?

... Hank

--

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## 57. Re: [BBSSIG:1072] Re: Network debate

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 18:18:17 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507061818.ZM27591@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 6, 5:19pm, pipe2@oeonline.com wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1072] Re: Network debate  
> >1. Could someone who is a strong proponent of rf only links please explain  
> >their vision  
> >of how this can happen without geostationary satellite links?  
>  
> In the Network SIG there has been a little bit of discussion about  
> geostationary sat links. The problem is these are SUPER EXPENSIVE and  
> difficult to develop/construct/launch. It will probably happen someday.

You can go back to the early TAPR literature for several different plans for building a national and an international network. We have one now. Check it out. There are some places where it is slow, some places where it is ill-connected, but it IS there. It needs improvement. Here is one idea of how to improve it: provide long haul low-vhf troposcatter links at 9600 baud (adapting down to lower speeds as required). These links can span more than 400 miles in most areas of the country. I've personally experimented with them in two locations: the east coast and the west coast. Think about traffic patterns and you will see that the inter-city and inter-state traffic is less than the local traffic. When local links need very high total bandwidth, the longer haul links need much less total bandwidth. Another example: a single CLOVER station can move ALL the extant bulletin traffic to one other CLOVER station with less than 3 hrs/day connect time.

>  
> >2. How can we possibly develop real time connections when it is difficult  
> >enough to maintain a semi-reliable 9k6 link to the next major population  
> >area? (In our area  
> >about 150 miles each way).  
>  
> Three ways: multi-hop (i.e. repeating sites --NOT digi's, but full-duplex  
> digital repeaters) point-to-point links, satellites, and our ol' buddy HF.

Exactly. And we have all three types of links in use now.

> >3. What speeds are you envisioning. I can't imagine even one mpbs being  
> >adequate for  
> >serious cross continental backbones if we are going to have a rich flow of  
> >data types.  
> >This means that point to point microwave links are a must due to the needed  
> >bandwidth  
> >and avoidance of multipath.  
>  
> Microwave is the ONLY way to handle multi-megabit per second links, and  
> point-to-point microwave links are the answer to inter-city links. The

> problem is money (again).

The problem is also sites, and coordination/cooperation.  
The politics appear to be hardest. Once people decide they want these links, and sites are located, the links appear.

> >4. In order for that to happen we would need national leadership to help  
> >guide and promote such a system in order that the connections can be  
> >created. One break in the chain and huge areas would be cut off. How would  
> >you do this? Is this practical to  
> >accomplish?  
>

> This can be avoided the same way the Internet deals with failures: reroutes.  
> If you have, say, 5 cities, each with at least two links to other cities  
> (each link going to a different city), you can handle single-point failures  
> easily. If one link fails between cities A and B, then the data is simply  
> rerouted so that it flows cityA -> cityC -> cityB through the alternate  
> routes. Available bandwidth decreases a bit, but network integrity remains  
> good. This is easily accomplished with TCP/IP since the protocol was  
> designed for this exact thing.

We need national leadership to provide the required standards.  
The internet works, I think, because of two factors: the use of standard networking means, and the existence of a viable coordinating body.  
In the ham radio network we have neither. The internet model has already failed, and no other model has appeared.

> >5. How is this better than the internet with its higher reliability, better

<deletia>

Personally I have no quibble with building an "RF based internet".  
The ONLY issue, as I see it, is the politics.  
The technology is mostly in hand.

... Hank

--

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---

## 58. Re: [BBSSIG:1060] Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 11:43:24 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507061143.ZM27013@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 5, 9:33pm, Charles Brabham wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1060] Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

Well yes, at least one of us agrees. Here is a little fuel for the fire, let's DO something about these "LL Lids" that keep popping up in the HAM RADIO network like CB Bootleggers on the repeaters ...

<deletia>

> Realizing that I'm not the world's foremost authority, I had hoped that  
> maybe someone would jump in here on the BBSSIG with some new argument in  
> favor of using Internet to forward ham radio traffic, explaining why my  
> fears about it destroying the packet radio network were silly and groundless.  
> Nobody came to Brian's rescue, though. The unpleasant facts still stare me (  
> and all hams ) in the face.

I think you are exactly correct.

>  
> It wouldn't have hurt my feelings at all to be proved wrong.. It's a  
> sobering prospect, and seeing the mindset of one of the "movers and shakers"  
> in the recent trend of Internet forwarding of packet messages didn't do much  
> to reassure me. I didn't come away from the exchange with the impression  
> that these issues are in good hands, and I still see a difficult battle  
> ahead if we are to retain a functional packet radio network. Because of this  
> I came away with a bad taste in my mouth, despite having "won" the debate.

Again I agree with your analysis.

>  
> >From my viewpoint, the practise of forwarding packet messages through  
> Internet appeals most to the lazy, shortsighted and ignorant aspects of  
> human nature. That's tough to go up against, but not impossible.. It CAN be  
> overcome with a sufficient dose of the facts.

Here is where we part company: I think the battle is already lost,  
and have started making plans for "what to do next, when HAM networking  
has died." Might be VHF/UHF Dxing ... been away from that aspect of  
the hobby for too long.

<deletia>

> Slowing down, stopping, then reversing the current rush to replace RF  
> forwarding links with Internet gateways needs to happen QUICKLY if we want  
> to still have a worldwide, or even a national packet radio network a couple  
> of years from now.  
> If it's done QUICKLY, we can cut down on the number of toes being stepped on  
> by the process and greatly reduce the amount of damage done to the ham  
> packet net as well. This will give packet a shorter recovery time, so we can  
> go back to the breakneck expansion we have become spoiled to. A shorter  
> recovery time will also be best for the real hard-core Internet/Packet  
> devotees, since they can then say "See? We didn't hurt you so bad!" instead  
> of having to live down a long and difficult time of recovery, being  
> constantly reminded of thier folly.

Totally agree with you here. Let's at least make the attempt to put  
HAM RADIO networking back on track. Those hams (and non-hams!) who  
wish to use the LL networks will do so anyway.

Any one else willing to sign up to GET THE COMMERCIAL NETWORKS  
OUT OF HAM RADIO ... or maybe call it "Shut Down the WIMP OPS!"

<deletia>

> Be a ham now, and you'll still be able to be a ham tomorrow. Look the issue  
> over, and if you see Internet forwarding of packet messages as a danger to  
> the hobby, tell a few guys about it! Spreading around the facts and letting  
> human nature take it's course is our best bet.

We also need to bring this SIG back on topic: this is about HAM RADIO.  
Anyone starts telling us how wonderful their "fiber network" is, they  
better also tell us how the HAMS layed the fiber, what transceivers  
were used, how right of way was obtained by the club, etc. etc.

To put it another way: we don't need any "LL Lids" on the HAM RADIO  
network, or on this interest group. Please go away.

... Hank

--

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## 59. Linux v/s Windows

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 1995 19:52:20 -0600 (MDT)  
To: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950706193650.13294A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Well with some trouble I have got Linux version 2.3 running and  
will attempt to load the dos emulator this weekend. I read where one ham  
had trouble loading that software so it may be a problem...

But the really bad news for Brian Lantz is the news from Dr.  
Elliot Bertsonagle who is the chair in computer sciense here at school. I  
showed Brian and his buddies messages to Elliot and after he stopped  
giggling he said "it's clear neither one knows a thing about how an  
emulator works". He then showed me an article about the DOS emulator that  
comes with the new "Super Computers". It was proven that a risk computer  
running at 120 MHZ under it's own operating system runs at 45 MHZ when  
using the DOS emulator.

Elliot told me to stop fooling around with Linux and just put the software on a Sun computer in the lab and prove the point. I may do that or put it on a Silican Graphics Indego computer in my lab.

Brian has been getting a lot of bad press here this week. My suggestion to Brian is to stay with your SIG which you through me off of, and let people with real knowledge of how the Wonderful Packet BBS Network works use THIS SIG. You will sleep better and feel better too.

73, de karl k5di

---

## 60. Re: [BBSSIG:1078] Re: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 1995 22:48:35 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950706224632.8378A-100000@planetx>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 6 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> Any one else willing to sign up to GET THE COMMERCIAL NETWORKS  
> OUT OF HAM RADIO ... or maybe call it "Shut Down the WIMP OPS!"

Ok, time to throw my two cents on this one: AMEN!

Lets design a good network with what we got, without using commercial "stuff". Completely RF, and completely Amateur Radio!

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```
*****  
* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *  
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *  
* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ *****  
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *  
*****
```

---

## 61. Status

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Thu, 6 Jul 1995 23:32:17 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507070432.XAA15102@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Howdy, Dave! I have done an initial run, with 15 pages of text and the two blank pages at the end for Greg's DCC info. I'm about to crash 'n burn right now, but will be examining the printout early tomorrow morning, looking for warts, ect.

We'll have to figure out an FTP site we can use to transfer the files. I thought I'd send the .PUB file ( All set up ) , the template and the individual articles in Windows Write format. ( \*.WRI ) This way, if you want to change the order of the articles or the template itself, it'll be a lot easier. There are also two graphics files, a small black Texas, and a USA in TIFF format which I used in a few places.

I wonder if we could use some obscure subdirectory in the TAPR FTP site?

By the way, I enjoyed your input in the BBSSIG debate over I-net forwarding. Sometimes I get so wrapped up in things that I forget that if having fun isn't high on the priority list, then everything else on the list will suffer.

I gotta go.. I'll send an update in the morning.

73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 62. Re: [BBSSIG:1068] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: erik@ve7mdl.ampr.org  
Date: Thu, 06 Jul 95 21:34:03  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <680@ve7mdl.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Folks,

The S/N ratio is getting a little too high. Can we cut out the potshots

and get back on a technical track?

73 de VE7MDL                      ....Erik.

---

### 63. Re: [BBSSIG:1082] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)

Date: Thu, 6 Jul 95 21:58:03 PDT

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <9507062158.ZM27988@hanko>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 6, 11:47pm, erik@ve7mdl.ampr.org wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1082] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

> Folks,

>

> The S/N ratio is getting a little too high. Can we cut out the potshots

> and get back on a technical track?

Um ... "technical"? Understood this group to be about BBS issues.

But anyway here are a couple ideas for topics:

How would we go about improving the forwarding network?

Seems to me, from this vantage point in the network, that short to medium haul paths work very well (out to roughly 300-400 miles) and then things get complicated. Is this strictly a problem of coordination/cooperation, or does the network really come to an end somewhere about mid-Idaho? Just to take a specific example: how would we create forwarding chains that span the Pacific NW to the Midwest, using only uhf/vhf ham radio links? To what organization might I appeal for help?

What is the most important or annoying bug in the present message forwarding scheme?

Is the the number of duplicates? If so can we quantify the problem? What steps could we take to cure the problem?

What should "us authors" be thinking about for the next generation of BBS software? (Please don't mention tcp/ip, as we have that already)

Why can't we have these discussions on ham radio instead of the internet?

... Hank

>

> 73 de VE7MDL                      ....Erik.

>-- End of excerpt from erik@ve7mdl.ampr.org

--

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Library Operations  
"Parts 'R Us!"

---

### 64. NOS, Packet and the Internet

From: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>

Date: Fri, 7 Jul 1995 02:07:02 -0700 (MDT)

To: BBSSIG TAPR <bbssig@tapr.org>

Message-ID: <m0sU8RF-0002dtC@mtewe.kevin.mt.us>

Rendered body type: text/plain

A couple points:

NOS has all the store and forward capability of the other AX25 bbs's in addition to SMTP mail passing. AND there is a SMTP store-and-forward "hopper" that can be compiled into NOS.

As for IP on AX25; in addition to allowing direct connectivity to other computers (and the world of the Internet) it greatly increases the robustness of message passing at the price of efficiency. Using the built in FBB compression on a plain AX25 circuit I can rapidly push a lot

of traffic to the local bbs that's only 2 nodes (and one hidden transmitter) away. Using TCP I can send bulletins, slowly but surely, to another system 7 nodes away. Each mode has its place and optimum use.

To say that IP and the Internet connection is the death of packet radio is no different than the AM'ers saying SSB will ruin Amateur Radio. Or that we shouldn't ever use commercial rigs and all equipment should be home built. It's a wonderful "off-the-shelf" resource. We need to make the best use of it while continuing to develop and expand in our specialty area of RF connections.

Let the Internet handle some of the traffic and help tie our local networks together. We need to move from the technology of the 70's (AX25 store and forward BBS's with dumb terminal access) and the 80's (standard ?NOS systems) to something near the state of the art (WEB sites, interactive MUD's and Games, or Client/Server setups of all types). I believe this will happen on ?NOS as it is the only open platform.

It may well be that access to the Internet and its wonders is what prompts folks to fix the flaws in our existing networks. It might be the incentive that's needed to properly route the NetRom networks, to separate the node-to-node communications from the users, to finally recognize and eliminate the zillions of hidden transmitters that turn a near useful 1200 baud system (100 cps) into a 1-5 cps slow and unreliable exercise in frustration.

73,  
Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

ps. Hey Keyboarders! What's the longest length of time you've kept a conversation going? With JNOS and it's lack of a timeout I've been able to chat with a pal in Calgary (250 miles north of here) on an uninterrupted connection for over 2 days.

---

## 65. Re: [BBSSIG:1083] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Date: Fri, 7 Jul 1995 08:39:56 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950707083625.10322A-100000@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 7 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> What is the most important or annoying bug in the present  
> message forwarding scheme?  
> What should "us authors" be thinking about for the next generation  
> of BBS software? (Please don't mention tcp/ip, as we have that

Compressed forwarding. I'm going to W0RLI shortly, but all the local stations use F6FBB, which uses a different style of compressed forwarding. I would like to see a "universal" compressed forwarding "standardized" that ALL possible forwarding stations understand.

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg Unviersity \*  
\* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ \*\*\*\*\*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 66. Re: [BBSSIG:1084] NOS, Packet and the Internet

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Fri, 7 Jul 95 11:33:34 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507071133.ZM29443@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 7, 6:32am, Bill Vodall wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1084] NOS, Packet and the Internet  
>  
> A couple points:  
>  
> NOS has all the store and forward capability of the other AX25 bbs's in



> addition to SMTP mail passing. AND there is a SMTP store-and-forward  
 > "hopper" that can be compiled into NOS.  
 >  
 > As for IP on AX25; in addition to allowing direct connectivity to other  
 > computers (and the world of the Internet) it greatly increases the  
 > robustness of message passing at the price of efficiency. Using the  
 > built in FBB compression on a plain AX25 circuit I can rapidly push a lot  
 > of traffic to the local bbs that's only 2 nodes (and one hidden transmitter)  
 > away. Using TCP I can send bulletins, slowly but surely, to another system  
 > 7 nodes away. Each mode has its place and optimum use.

Can you explain the "... increases the robustness ..." statement?  
 I run NOS, and of course the AX.25/CLOVER BBS. I certainly see many  
 more fails on the tcp/ip side than either the AX.25 or CLOVER side.  
 Perhaps you could clarify this statement a bit, since it makes no  
 sense to me. I regularly forward across links that span 10-12 nodes,  
 with no difficulty at all, using both NET/ROM over AX.25 and ip  
 over NET/ROM over AX.25.

> To say that IP and the Internet connection is the death of packet radio  
 > is no different than the AM'ers saying SSB will ruin Amateur Radio. Or that  
 we  
 > shouldn't ever use commercial rigs and all equipment should be home  
 > built. It's a wonderful "off-the-shelf" resource. We need to make the  
 > best use of it while continuing to develop and expand in our specialty area  
 > of RF connections.

This is a patently silly argument: AM and SSB are both RADIO modes.  
 The equivalent argument must compare RADIO vs. LL transport.

>  
 > Let the Internet handle some of the traffic and help tie our local networks  
 > together. We need to move from the technology of the 70's (AX25 store and  
 > forward BBS's with dump terminal access) and the 80's (standard ?NOS systems)  
 to  
 > something near the state of the art (WEB sites, interactive MUD's and Games,  
 > or Client/Server setups of all types). I believe this will happen on ?NOS as  
 > it is the only open platform.

Sure, and using phone patches (i.e. LL links) to link voice repeaters  
 does the same, and has the save effect; reduction in urgency of the  
 construction on long haul RADIO links.

> It may well be that access to the Internet and its wonders is what prompts  
 > folks to fix the flaws in our existing networks. It might be the incentive  
 > that's needed to properly route the NetRom networks, to separate the  
 > node-to-node communications from the users, to finally recognize and  
 > eliminate the zillions of hidden transmitters that turn a near useful  
 > 1200 baud system (100 cps) into a 1-5 cps slow and unreliable exercise  
 > in frustration.

Sounds like you need to fix your network!

But, as you point out above, why bother since you can unload  
 that network by using the telephone instead. I can do exactly  
 the same on 20M SSB by calling someone on the LL instead of  
 having a QSO with them on 14.289 ... and that sure helps reduce  
 the QRM on 20M doesn't it?

... Hank

--

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## 67. Re: [BBSSIG:1085] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
 Date: Fri, 7 Jul 95 11:39:37 PDT  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <9507071139.ZM29453@hanko>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 7, 8:15am, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:  
 > Subject: [BBSSIG:1085] RE: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet  
 > On Fri, 7 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

>  
> > What is the most important or annoying bug in the present  
> > message forwarding scheme?  
> > What should "us authors" be thinking about for the next generation  
> > of BBS software? (Please don't mention tcp/ip, as we have that  
>  
> Compressed forwarding. I'm going to W0RLI shortly, but all the local  
> stations use F6FBB, which uses a different style of compressed  
> forwarding. I would like to see a "universal" compressed forwarding  
> "standardized" that ALL possible forwarding stations understand.

I should note that "compressed batch forwarding" is not just my  
idea, it was discussed by about a dozen bbs authors, and implemented  
by 4 or 5 at about the same time. It's really just the import/export  
protocol plus a very simple protocol over batch contents. It is  
described in detail in the BBS specification. It should take a BBS  
author perhaps two evenings to implement - at least that's the  
experience of those who have implemented it.

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

## 68. Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)  
Date: Fri, 07 Jul 1995 13:47:59 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <01HSLA6I33B6I3TS1Y@tntech.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

karl k5di writes:

>  
> But the really bad news for Brian Lantz is the news from Dr.  
> Elliot Bertsonagle who is the chair in computer science here at school. I  
> showed Brian and his buddies messages to Elliot and after he stopped  
> giggling he said "it's clear neither one knows a thing about how an  
> emulator works".

Apparently that CS chairperson is not familiar with Linux and/or DOSEMU  
because, in fact, DOSEMU is \*not\* an emulator. It doesn't help that the  
name DOSEMU (DOS emulator) and the documentation misuses this term.

DOSEMU takes DOS system calls, etc. and converts them into Linux system  
calls -- I would describe it as an API (application program interface)  
converter. DOS programs when they are not making system calls will run at  
full speed; when making system calls the operations may be either speeded  
up or slowed down depending on the particular call and the implementation  
details (it has been claimed that the Linux file system is faster than the  
DOS file system so file accesses should be faster when using DOSEMU under  
Linux as compared to just using DOS). WINE, the Windows interface project  
for Linux, is another example of an API converter. For both DOSEMU and  
WINE, code for the 80x86 family is run on an 80x86 CPU.

A real emulator, in the proper usage of the term, runs a program which is  
compiled for one CPU instruction set on a CPU which uses another  
instruction set. A significant speed penalty is always present but it may  
be compensated for by a faster CPU, etc. Some examples of a real emulator  
are: SoftPC for the Macintosh (runs PC programs on a Macintosh); SoftPC for  
the Sun Sparc workstations (runs PC programs on a Sun Sparc); components of  
Apple's PowerMac system software (runs old Mac software for the 680x0 CPUs  
on the PowerPC CPU).

I'd suggest that the scientific method be used here rather than making  
unsubstantiated and somewhat emotional claims about various person's  
competence. Brian has made a claim which can be verified relatively  
easily. Try it and report your results. Additionally, you might show  
Elliot this message and see if he changes his answer.

Jeff, k9ja

P.S. What do you mean by "Linux version 2.3"? Is that really Slackware  
2.3.0 which, if I remember correctly, uses the Linux 1.2.8 kernel?

---

Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University

## 69. Re: [BBSSIG:1077] Re: Network debate

From: pipe2@oeonline.com  
Date: Fri, 7 Jul 95 16:57 EDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0sUKT1-0003FXC@oeonline.oeonline.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>We need national leadership to provide the required standards.  
>The internet works, I think, because of two factors: the use of standard  
>networking means, and the existence of a viable coordinating body.  
>In the ham radio network we have neither. The internet model has  
>already failed, and no other model has appeared.

If you meant the NSF as a coordinating body for th Internet, they are no longer providing. The NSF backbone service ended on April 30th, this year. The closest thing is to a coordinating body that the Internet now has is the IETF, and it is currently working on an enhanced version of IP, it has nothing to do with establishing links.

-Bill kb8wyp

---

## 70. Re: Linux,TNOS,I-net/Packet

From: fljkj@planete.net (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Fri, 7 Jul 1995 23:26:25 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507072126.XAA04893@unix10.pressimage.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>1. Using a TNC/Radio is Ham Radio.. Using a modem/landline is not.

That's true. You need a license to operate a radio, you don't need one for a modem. So ham-radio sysops have the privilege to use both ! They should use it !

>2. Hams currently have a digital network of thier own which covers most of  
>the planet, using RF links. This network, while imperfect, represents one of  
>ham radio's greatest achievements. This network's heart and "backbone" is  
>represented by long-haul RF links. They are what makes it a ham RADIO network.

-Our messaging system is not a network in most cases. We can speak about a network while using Texnet (i don't know it) or Flexnet (in Center/East Europe). Long haul RF links, in most cases running 300Bps packet, do nothing but eating some of the ham spectrum for a very low "cost"/efficiency ratio.  
-This messaging system's heart is not IMHO, the HF part, but the local acceses. They are the only vital pieces.

>3. When a new Internet/packet message forwarding gateway is operated, the  
>motivation to maintain or expand long-haul RF links is seriously affected.  
>Following this, HF forwarders and hams who plan to build and maintain  
>long-haul VHF/UHF networks find themselves lacking the support they had  
>enjoyed before the I-net gate came online. This is how and why the RF  
>long-haul digital net suffers to varying degrees at each I-net gate's location.

That's certainly true. When personnal computers arrived, most of typewriter builders found themselves out of job. They certainly regret it, but i don't. That is called EVOLUTION.

Some people are always affraid by evolution. You're certainly one of them. We should only hope that HF forwarders will not give up, but continue to support packet in other ways.

>4. When an I-net gate takes over the message forwarding tasks from the RF  
>components of the packet radio network in a given locale, overall throughput  
>of message traffic is greatly increased, making it difficult for hams to see  
>the damage to the long-haul RF links which have been superceded by the  
landline.

Thanks a lot !! You've just said us that long-haul RF links DID NOT WORK ENOUGH !!

If it was good enough, there would'nt be any traffic increase !?

Users don't mind it anyway. The more message they get (the more fast), the more they appreciate packet !

>6. In emergencies, radio will work when the landlines do not. Hams who  
>cannot offer emergency communications because they are heavily dependent on  
>landlines look silly as hell. They look silly to the local government and  
>population, and they look silly to the FCC and Congress. This damages the

>reputation of all hams.

That's why you should support TCP/IP evolution: Datagrams will be a lot more reliable than virtual circuit connections !! Internet has proven its reliability in these cases. Internet protocol+radio links is the perfect solution !

>7. Radio spectrum is valuable stuff, but as hams we get lots of it for free.  
>When commercial outfits can point out hams using and depending on landlines  
>in preference to RF links, it greatly weakens our position and image with  
>the FCC, and Congress. In these days of shrinking budgets and governmental  
>money-grabs, this can lead directly to loss of spectrum.

You've just told us that the use of gateways will increase traffic... That way, ham will use more and more of their precious spectrum !

>8. The practise of using I-net gates to forward packet radio messages is  
>very rapidly gaining in popularity. At each location, the long-haul RF links  
>which comprise the heart of the worldwide ham radio digital net are  
>adversely affected, and another leg of the RF net withers. This effect is  
>very rapidly snowballing, and constitutes a clear danger to the packet radio  
>network's integrity.

That's your opinion. Mine is that using Inet gateways will push the sysops to build some reliable, high throughput NETWORKS, using open protocols. That way we will maybe have a real ham network.

> Come up with serious answers, which are directly related to the points outlined above.  
>Bet you can't do it!

Readers will make their opinion :-)

>From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ  
> F1JKJ@planete.net <  
Fidonet 2:323/22.1  
Compuserve ID 100407,436

---

## 71. Re: [BBSSIG:1089] Re: Network debate

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Fri, 7 Jul 95 14:38:52 PDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507071438.ZM29737@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Jul 7, 4:02pm, pipe2@oeonline.com wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1089] Re: Network debate  
> >We need national leadership to provide the required standards.  
> >The internet works, I think, because of two factors: the use of standard  
> >networking means, and the existence of a viable coordinating body.  
> >In the ham radio network we have neither. The internet model has  
> >already failed, and no other model has appeared.  
>  
> If you meant the NSF as a coordinating body for the Internet, they are no  
> longer providing. The NSF backbone service ended on April 30th, this year.  
> The closest thing is to a coordinating body that the Internet now has is the  
> IETF, and it is currently working on an enhanced version of IP, it has  
> nothing to do with establishing links.

No, I did not mean NSF, they were simply the funding agency.  
I meant the IETF of course.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

## 72. Re: [BBSSIG:1088] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Fri, 7 Jul 1995 18:12:54 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950707175055.27543B-100000@acca>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 7 Jul 1995, Jeffrey Austen wrote:

```
> karl k5di writes:
> > But the really bad news for Brian Lantz is the news from Dr.
> > Elliot Bertsonagle who is the chair in computer science here at school. I
> > showed Brian and his buddies messages to Elliot and after he stopped
> > giggling he said "it's clear neither one knows a thing about how an
> > emulator works".
>
> Apparently that CS chairperson is not familiar with Linux and/or DOSEMU
> because, in fact, DOSEMU is *not* an emulator. It doesn't help that the
> name DOSEMU (DOS emulator) and the documentation misuses this term.
```

I see, you know more about this software than the people that wrote it!

```
>
> DOSEMU takes DOS system calls, etc. and converts them into Linux system
> calls -- I would describe it as an API (application program interface)
> converter.
```

That is an emulator for gods sake! It takes DOS (Disk Operating System) calls and converts them to Linux Operating System calls. That is the definition of an emulator. Sure glad the guys who wrote the software knew what it was....

DOS programs when they are not making system calls will run at  
> full speed; when making system calls the operations may be either speeded  
> up or slowed down depending on the particular call and the implementation  
> details (it has been claimed that the Linux file system is faster than the  
> DOS file system so file accesses should be faster when using DOSEMU under  
> Linux as compared to just using DOS).

These are the "claims" we giggled about. I assume you have not loaded or tested this claim. I have just loaded Linux version not sure of but it comes up with Linux 1.2.8 so I'm calling it that. I ran out of disk space trying to load the "X" disks. If you know how to tell the setup program to use the other drive I have then it will fit. I am tired of Linux. Too much software with NO documentation! Havw all the "A" and "AP" and "E" and "N" and "D" and part of "X" disks loaded. The thing is a monster!

WINE, the Windows interface project  
> for Linux, is another example of an API converter. For both DOSEMU and  
> WINE, code for the 80x86 family is run on an 80x86 CPU.  
>  
> A real emulator, in the proper usage of the term, runs a program which is  
> compiled for one CPU instruction set on a CPU which uses another  
> instruction set. A significant speed penalty is always present but it may  
> be compensated for by a faster CPU, etc. Some examples of a real emulator  
> are: SoftPC for the Macintosh (runs PC programs on a Macintosh); SoftPC for  
> the Sun Sparc workstations (runs PC programs on a Sun Sparc); components of  
> Apple's PowerMac system software (runs old Mac software for the 680x0 CPUs  
> on the PowerPC CPU).  
>

You see these as "REAL" emulators because the HARDEWARE CPU can't do DOS. That is not a reason to say these are emulators while dosemu is for an operationg system that uses a CPU that can do DOS. This does not compute.

```
> I'd suggest that the scientific method be used here rather than making
> unsubstantiated and somewhat emotional claims about various person's
> competence. Brian has made a claim which can be verified relatively
> easily. Try it and report your results. Additionally, you might show
> Elliot this message and see if he changes his answer.
>
> Jeff, k9ja
>
```

```
> P.S. What do you mean by "Linux version 2.3"? Is that really Slackware
> 2.3.0 which, if I remember correctly, uses the Linux 1.2.8 kernel?
>
```

Jeff, I expect you have far more experience with Unix than I. My experience is that of the manager of the people that run the internet. I learned DOS because that was what I have at home. So please load Linux and figure out how to run dosemu. I have not the time or inclination to do this task. I can't even figure out how to use the dam thing...hi

```
>
> ---
> Jeffrey Austen      | Tennessee Technological University
> jra1854@tntech.edu  | Box 5004
> +1 615 372 3485     | Cookeville Tennessee 38505   U.S.A.
>
>
>
73, karl k5di
```

---

### 73. Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@tntech.edu>  
Date: Fri, 07 Jul 1995 21:03:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <01HSL0U0ISJQI3TL4U@tntech.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl:

I find your response to be on the verge of insulting. I stand by my claim that DOSEMU is not an emulator in the commonly accepted sense of the term; if I find a convenient reference to back up that claim I'll post it but I'm not going to waste my time searching for one. As for Linux, there is plenty of documentation available -- you just have to know where to look for it. Hint: read the applicable HOWTO files, in particular the installation howto, it'll explain how to use your other disk. I'd suggest that you skip the X series as you don't need it to run DOSEMU.

Jeff, k9ja  
+--+  
Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University  
jra1854@tntech.edu | Box 5004  
(615) 372-3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

---

### 74. BBSSIG - NOT!

From: kf5mg@compuTek.net (Jack Snodgrass)  
Date: Fri, 07 Jul 95 04:58:53 cdt  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507080635.AA03715@relay.interserv.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Silly me.... I thought that BBSSIG was a group that would discuss BBS Issues. I asked a BBS Specific question ( info on the new compression code that FBB uses ) and all I've seen since I joind this mailing list is about 20 piecies of junk. The stuff here is as bad as all the forsale@ww garbage on the packet network we have now. How do you gentlemen expect to improve the current situation if you act like children. I'm out of here. The best thing about this is you seem to be keeping some of this trash off the RF network.

73's de Jack - kf5mg  
Internet / hobby - kf5mg@kf5mg.ampr.org - home (817) 488-4386  
/ work - jsnodgra@ttsi.tandem.com - work (214) 516-6270  
/ misc - kf5mg@compuTek.com - metro(817) 481-7182  
WEB - http://www.tapr.org/~kf5mg - for voice mail.  
PBBSnet - kf5mg@kf5mg.#dfw.tx.usa.noam  
+=====+  
+ I am Homer of Borg.... prepare to be assim... oooo... Donuts... +  
+=====+

## 75. Inet & LL Fwd a point from Greece

From: "Tasos Zachariou" <sv1rd@qrl.sv1rd.ampr.org>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 95 09:08:22 EET  
To: bbssig@tapr.org, azahar@isosun.ariadne-t.gr  
Message-ID: <181.sv1rd@qrl.sv1rd.ampr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Internet vs S&F PBBS: a point of view from Greece.

Two groups of hams have opposite points of view in this debate.  
Let's compare the two systems (PBBS and TCP/IP) and see possible  
advantages and disadvantages of each one, from my side.

- a. Traditional AX.25 with S&F PBBS messages (bulletins and mail):
  - \* A Super User group (sysops) with god-like powers and lots of simple users, like mainframes and dumb terminals a few years back
  - \* Proprietary software (without source, like ?BBS or BPQ) specially for x86 Dos-Windows platforms
  - \* A NET/ROM (proprietary) usually network, without global connectivity, with all the well known problems
  - \* Limited connectivity and a slow WW messaging system.
- b. AMPRNET. New tecnology like TCP/IP (Not so new but only recently popular):
  - \* Nodes and client-server applications for every platform
  - \* No self-proclaimed gods (sysops)
  - \* Possibility to use wired links to have direct connections with all the Amprnet Lans over Internet. And direct connections when there are local RF links.

Let me explain the past, current and future situation in my country  
going back to the early dates of packet in Greece.

The God (Sysop)

-----  
In the beginning there was a Sysop, who set up a S&F BBS in Athens with HF links. Then other areas with many hams found a new Sysop and now we have 3 major BBS centers, Athens, Zakynthos (Zante), Thessaloniki, each one with a Sysop, closely cooperating with the God.

There are also some "distric sysops", more or less appointed by the Sysop, as good relations with him is the key to get forwarding to your own PBBS and serve your local community.

Unfortunately the Sysop is a member of the board of RAAG (the national association) and expresses the RAAG's policy in packet radio affairs, is the only person who has permission to configure major NET/ROM nodes in Greece (the only way to pass traffic between diferent cities due to geographical reasons) so is the only who is able to dictate his terms.

He enjoys to put in bad list anyone he doesn't like, remove him next week,only to put him back 2 weeks later.

The Sysop has a continuous semi-private link with 9600 with RAAG's bbs and every personal message that pass RAAG's pbbs (SV1SV-1) is forwarded to him first for approval.

Unfortunately, 95% personall tfc between South/West and Northern Greece is forwarded via RAAG's BBS so all greek tfc read by this person.

Another problem with PBBS mail is that the network is unstable. The connection between Athens (South) and Thessaloniki (North) is still only 1200 bps although RAAG decide 5 years ago to speed it up to 9600 bps. The connection is also so bad that it can be used only for PBBS message forwarding and nothing else.

The Amprnet group

-----  
At the opposite side, there are all the hams with interest in networking or who don't like the restrictions imposed by 3 Sysops.

Two groups started to grow in Athens and Thessaloniki around Universities, with different frequencies and with KA9Q/WG7J NOS software 5 years ago. At that time there was no Internet connectivity to amateur radio nodes. So these two groups tried to exchange SMTP mail over the two Netrom Nodes controlled by RAAG. This was the spark which ignited a major war over the present and future of packet radio in Greece.

The group of those 3 PBBS Sysops saw AMPRnet as a major threat to their

god-like powers and started a dirty campaign against everything related to TCP/IP, which was out of their control. All traffic other than forwarding PBBS between the systems of the 3 Sysops and their close associates, was forbidden and black lists of TCP/IP nodes were uploaded to most NET/ROM nodes.

So the only way to connect these 2 TCP/IP groups was IP encapsulation over the Internet. Now we have 3 Internet encap Gateways (Athens, Thessaloniki and Crete) and one gateway (Patras) without encap.

#### Users

-----  
We have two different classes of packet users. The one includes those who exchange only lots of "For Sale" bulletins which accounts for 90% of local PBBS Bulletin t/c. The other group is made up from all the hams who receive Amateur mailing lists from Internet and have connections with Amprnet sites and could use client-server applications like WWW, Gopher etc as alive pieces of a direct network.

#### The Future

-----  
The future will see two separate networks. It is very difficult to put nodes at the top of the mountains (usually military areas) to connect different Amprnet sites without the backing of the RAAG, so the only way to communicate is the wired Internet and of course the only way to have direct connections with the outside world.  
The "big sysop" now is going to upgrade speed between Athens & Thessaloniki but open the high speed port only for the 3 PBBS sysops. They decided that only club BBS's and only 1 BBS for every area (this is new fruit here) will be allowed to connect to so called "network". That means only the friendly group of "3 Sysops".

Even after Aigion Earthquake last month, it was not possible to pass emergency t/c from local ARES group of the affected area to the Athens AresData system even at low speed port of local node, as user connections were locked out.

I know that every country or area has his local peculiarity and I don't try to generalize my experience from here but I want to give you a pure situation.

Dear BBS sysops why are you afraid of for TCP/IP networking, applications and the Internet?

Why Amateurs who were for years in the forefront of technology, now try to enforce the networking technology of 1975?

It seems that problem is that the PBBS world does not have the flexibility to approach Amprnet. So Amprnet groups have to grow and PBBS to shrink, as it cannot support the new applications like WWW etc. All old radio links will have to disappear except all these who give way to local Gateways.

The only way to improve our RF paths and not stick to Internet, is the existing PBBS world to convert to the TCP/IP Client - Server approach, and all nodes will have to be changed and pass IP traffic, (perhaps by installing the TheNet-X1 firmware).  
About hf perhaps needs to develop and improve new kind of fast connections like Glover.  
This is the only way for IP encapsulation over the Internet to become only a backup route and not our primary link.

The conversion from AX.25 S&F PBBS to TCP/IP bring down the sysops power but give the amateur radio a good reason to stay near at the cutting edge of technology.

Tasos Zachariou  
Packet Mail - SV1RD @ SV1UY.ATH.GRC.EU  
Internet mail - sv1rd@athnet.ath.forthnet.gr  
Amprnet - sv1rd@sv1rd.ampr.org  
Snail Mail - POB 3541 GR-10210 Athens Greece  
phone (030-1)3344087 fax 3344049

```
      ! _____  
     /_ \ _____  
    I  I I I I I  
   _  _  _  _  _  
  /  A T H N E T  \  
 - Athens Packet Radio -  
 / Internetworking Group \  
 ~~~~~
```

---

## 76. Re: [BBSSIG:1093] Re: Linux v/s Windows



From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 04:00:49 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950708034732.28622A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 7 Jul 1995, Jeffrey Austen wrote:

> Karl:  
>  
> I find your response to be on the verge of insulting. I stand by my claim  
> that DOSEMU is not an emulator in the commonly accepted sense of the term;  
> if I find a convenient reference to back up that claim I'll post it but I'm  
> not going to waste my time searching for one. As for Linux, there is

There was no attempt to insult you Jeff; if it seemed that way I'm sorry. As far as this thread is concerned, I am tired of Linux and plan to spend no more time trying to make it work while I learn UNIX. In fact I don't want to learn UNIX. I want to use DOS and Windows like all the people.

> plenty of documentation available -- you just have to know where to look  
> for it. Hint: read the applicable HOWTO files, in particular the  
> installation howto, it'll explain how to use your other disk. I'd suggest  
> that you skip the X series as you don't need it to run DOSEMU.

>  
> Jeff, k9ja  
> +--+  
> Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University  
> jra1854@tntech.edu | Box 5004  
> (615) 372-3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.  
>  
>

Thanks Jeff, I will ftp the HOWTO stuff and read it. I want X windows because I like Windows and my people have Silican Graphics computers that have very nice Windows. Roger tells me he doesn't use UNIX very much in his simulations. It seems he uses Applications that use UNIX.

73, de karl k5di

---

## 77. Re: [BBSSIG:1094] BBSSIG - NOT!

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 04:24:59 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950708041621.28622B-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 8 Jul 1995, Jack Snodgrass wrote:

> Silly me.... I thought that BBSSIG was a group that would discuss  
> BBS  
> Issues. I asked a BBS Specific question ( info on the new compression  
> code that FBB uses ) and all I've seen since I joind this mailing list  
> is about 20 piecies of junk. The stuff here is as bad as all the  
> forsale@ww garbage on the packet network we have now. How do you  
> gentelmen expect to improve  
> the current situation if you act like children. I'm out of here. The  
> best  
> thing about this is you seem to be keeping some of this trash off the  
> RF  
> network.  
>

Jack, I think you sent me mail on the FBB compression algorithm and while I don't have that algorithm I do forward with all 3 versions of FBB version 5.15 that are 5.15 5.15B and 5.15C with no problems. So I can't verify that a new algorithm is being used, but CAN verify it is backward compatable.

Also today in the nos-bbs sig a european said he is using compressed forwarding with a FBB bbs (but he couldent monitor his compressed signal...oh well will compile jnos1.10k today and see.

73, karl k5di

```

>
>
> 73's de Jack - kf5mg
> Internet / hobby - kf5mg@kf5mg.ampr.org - home (817) 488-4386
> / work - jsnodgra@ttsi.tandem.com - work (214) 516-6270
> / misc - kf5mg@computeek.com - metro(817) 481-7182
> WEB - http://www.tapr.org/~kf5mg - for voice mail.
> PBBSnet - kf5mg@kf5mg.#dfw.tx.usa.noam
> +=====+
> + I am Homer of Borg.... prepare to be assim... oooo... Donuts... +
> +=====+
>
>

```

## 78. Re: [BBSSIG:1095] Inet & LL Fwd a point from Greece

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 04:46:48 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950708043210.28622C-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 8 Jul 1995, Tasos Zachariou wrote:

```

> Internet vs S&F PBBS: a point of view from Greece.
>
>
> Two groups of hams have opposite points of view in this debate.
> Let's compare the two systems (PBBS and TCP/IP) and see possible
> advantages and disadvantages of each one, from my side.

```

Lots of stuff deleted.....

Tasos, what you describe is not a new thing in the USA. Here it's not usually a packet sysop that has God-Like power. It's the guy who put up the network...

The solution we have used in the El Paso-Las Cruces, NM area is to put up 1 network used by the BBS and TCP/IP (the nodes are X1J types so we can use true IP subrouting) and the DX Cluster and the Internet Gateway!

Tasos I suggest you put up your own X1J network and invite the bbs sysops to use it. When somebody puts up a DX Cluster, ask them to use your network. You are on the internet. So you can call Remi f6cnb and get ALL the BBS bulletins yourself. Just ftp to 44.76.5.138 and login as 'ftpfwd' and use your call as password.

73, de karl k5di

## 79. Re: [BBSSIG:1094] BBSSIG - NOT!

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 08:39:02 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507081339.IAA03491@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

> Silly me.... I thought that BBSSIG was a group that would discuss
>BBS
>Issues. I asked a BBS Specific question (info on the new compression
>code that FBB uses) and all I've seen since I joined this mailing list
>is about 20 pieces of junk. The stuff here is as bad as all the
>forsale@ww garbage on the packet network we have now. How do you
>gentlemen expect to improve
>the current situation if you act like children. I'm out of here. The
>best
>thing about this is you seem to be keeping some of this trash off the
>RF
>network.
>
>

```

Jack is being modest here.. He is largely responsible for JNOS's ability to forward properly with FBB BBS's, and so is also largely responsible for the

current rush to abandon RF links in favor of telephone links ( Internet )  
for the purpose of forwarding packet Radio messages.

I wonder why Jack is so unhappy to see the current issues being discussed?

;-)

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet :    n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 80. Re: [BBSSIG:1093] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 10:36:07 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507081021.B2303-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 7 Jul 1995, Jeffrey Austen wrote:

```
> Karl:
>
> I find your response to be on the verge of insulting. I stand by my claim
> that DOSEMU is not an emulator in the commonly accepted sense of the term;
> if I find a convenient reference to back up that claim I'll post it but I'm
> not going to waste my time searching for one. As for Linux, there is
> plenty of documentation available -- you just have to know where to look
> for it. Hint: read the applicable HOWTO files, in particular the
> installation howto, it'll explain how to use your other disk. I'd suggest
> that you skip the X series as you don't need it to run DOSEMU.
```

You see, Jeff, if you are NOT Hank, Charles, or Karl, your opinions are NOT welcome here. You are automatically WRONG, and if you say anything at ALL that resembles something that they are biased against, they will manipulate your words to make them say whatever they wish. This allows them to ramble on, and help run off more and more from the SIG.

Take it as a compliment, Jeff. They only attack people who seem more intelligent than them, and those who intimidate them, which seems to be EVERYONE.

Either that, or they haven't been taking their medication.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz    <http://www.lantz.com>    brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 81. mail\_archive

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 09:38:26 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing), netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing),  
hfsig@tapr.org (HF SIG mailing), aprssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)  
Message-ID: <199507081438.JAA23566@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

The mail archives for all the SIGs are now updated nightly.

They can be gotten by ftp in each SIG area under mail\_archive

<ftp://ftp.tapr.org/tapr/SIG/>

In addition, the mail\_archive files have been available from the TAPR listserv.

There are links to the SIGs in the TAPR web page.  
<http://www.tapr.org/tapr>

Cheers - Greg

---

## 82. Re: Internet and LL forwarding

From: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 12:31:22 -0300  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507081531.MAA20711@bud.peinet.pe.ca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I've tried to write something about this subject 3 or 4 times. In each case I trashed it because I don't see the sense in long debating or mud-slinging.

InterNet and other forms of non-RF/non-Amateur fwding are a fact of life and will continue to be. What we should be discussing is what should we (BBS) Sysops be doing about it? (or with it) (I see this discussion has moved over to BBSSIG too.)

In my case, I have been using HF (packet) fwding for almost 10 years but it has slowed to a trickle and hardly worth it now. Only Personal mail and little of that considering band condx on 20M. Secondly I have a pair of 9600b modems for a UHF back-bone upgrade but question whether it's worth spending more time and money on that direction either.

If BBS are trying to mimic the InterNet and carry tons of EVERYTHING then they will have to either spend a lot more time and \$\$\$ upgrading Networks or join in the Internet. (For almost the same money over the short term.)

In fact I would not be surprised to see that much of the "BBS" operations dwindle and as more and more InterNet gateways are installed. Maybe the BBS will convert to an InterNet server/gateway instead. If that's what the USERS want...and hopefully are willing to pay for.

All the hype about InterNet has created a huge expansion such that we may see local access to InterNet in almost every (populated) area in US & Canada. Also at a price that makes one wonder if a \$2000 HF rig is worth it vs InterNet access for almost 5 years for the same price.

The TCP group has the image that each USER will be his own "BBS", but that doesn't help the guys with dumb-terminals or C64's. Who is going to support them?

At my work we are facing the replacement of all terminal and any PC less than a 386DX as we convert our Network to TCP from X25. Should this be the minimum for Amateur Packet users too? (InterNet users already know that a 386DX is about minimum for their use.)

If the TCP, Cluster, BBS and Network guys all got together (as in cooperation) could a fast-enuff, big-enuff (RF) network be built to handle them all? Unfortunately I really don't see that happening beyond metropolitan areas because of cost & support.

Much of these discussions relates to Network issues as well since most BBS are an integral part of Networks, and BBS Sysops are usually the driving force behind Network development.

What should we be doing about HF Packet? Let it dwindle out or invest in new technologies to improve it?(assuming it will fill our needs in the future)

I know a lot of Sysops (and non-Sysops) are monitoring this SIG so let's have some down-to-earth discussion on the future/direction of BBS operations and their interconnects.

73 - Ron ve1aic

---

### 83. JNOS1.10K and FBB Packet BBS!

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 12:11:17 -0600 (MDT)  
To: NOS-BBS Sig <nos-bbs@hydra.carleton.ca>  
Cc: TAPR BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950708114410.10660A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Good news for all the guys using JNOS as a bbs either full time or part time. I have just compiled a version of this nos and have it running on the same computer with the F6FBB version 5.15C server or packet bbs.

I sent messages from k5di-9, my nos to k5di my bbs and sent messages from the bbs to nos. Both ways the normal FBB style file exchange was perfect and both ways the messages were compressed!

It was fast since both the bbs and nos are connected to the BPQ switch k5di-1 and they can forward at 56 kbs if they want to...hi I had trouble seeing the messages go as there is lots of traffic on the bbs and dx cluster and gateway on saturday morning.

But with a manual lawn mower I got the back yard looking good, and jnos1.10k compiled. Now I am relaxing and telling you about it. I am a major bbs in the El Paso-Las Cruces, NM area so I can't in good faith turn off the FBB bbs and run just nos. Here are the deficiencies in jnos as a bbs:

1. JNOS has no automatic lookup of packet address's. I find the White Pages concept a huge help to my users. A bbs I forward to does not have White Pages and I must manually "fix" his mail a lot. But he is using an XT and just hasn't the power to run White Pages.

I think jnos needs to try and fit in at least Hroute data. My Hroute.sys file is about 50k and this is not hard to search in real time (there are about 5000 BBS calls listed). White Pages lists both BBS and BBS users and I have about 9,000 listings. This is harder to read real time and use.

2. JNOS has no way to forward a message. This isn't done real often but it is a nice thing to have.

And here are features not found in FBB. Using the rewrite file I can gather like messages under a single heading like ForSale. And you can send smtp mail to other nos users or even forward using the best method of forwarding to each other.

In summation, Robert and his group of helpers are sure achiving the type of nos all of us want! I say a 20 gun salute is called for:

bang!  
bang!  
pop!  
pist!  
boom!  
crack!  
bang!  
plop!  
bang bang bang bang bang bang bang bang bang bang pop!

73, de karl k5di

---

## 84. Re: [BBSSIG:1100] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 14:47:07 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507081947.OAA13438@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Brian A. Lantz...

>You see, Jeff, if you are NOT Hank, Charles, or Karl, your opinions are  
>NOT welcome here. You are automatically WRONG, and if you say anything  
>at ALL that resembles something that they are biased against, they will  
>manipulate your words to make them say whatever they wish. This allows  
>them to ramble on, and help run off more and more from the SIG.

>

>Take it as a compliment, Jeff. They only attack people who seem more  
>intelligent than them, and those who intimidate them, which seems to be  
>EVERYONE.

>

>Either that, or they haven't been taking their medication.

>

>

Poor, poor Brian! His arguements can't stand up to even the most casual tests of logic or common sense, so he feels like he's being "picked on"..

When confronted with facts, his defence is to refuse to see them. I doubt he could POSSIBLY be as ignorant and myopic as he pretends.

My heart bleeds for poor Brian, and his terrible mistreatment at the hands of these awful people who ask these uncomfortable questions, and keep putting forward these inconvenient facts. What's even more terrible is how they refused to be side-tracked or flummoxed by the standard set of TCP/IP catch-phrases, which must have worked so well for Brian in the past.

And Brian is probably right.. More and more are being run off from this BBSSIG.. He kinda neglects to mention that most of these who feel they must tuck thier tails between thier legs and "run off" are not the Ham Radio BBS SYSOPs this SIG is supposed to be for, but instead are primarily the LandLine Lids who have infested this SIG, and ham radio.

Like Brian.

Brian is also correct in that I am biased.. Yep, I'm biased in favor of ham radio, and the packet radio network. I find Brian's bias in favor of landline networks to be totally unimpressive from my point of view, being a ham radio operator and proud of it.

When I first subscribed to this BBSSIG, I had expected to see BBS SYSOPs discussing issues related to the packet radio network and BBS's, with an eye to advancing the art in both of these areas. Instead, I found MANY of the TCP/IP devotees disparaging not only the packet radio network, but ham radio itself. ALL of the LandLine Lids here were doing the same thing.

Instead of a group of hams looking for ways to advance ham radio and packet, I found a group of pencil-necks who seemed intent on spitting on the work of dedicated ham radio operators around the world. Thier idea of advancing ham radio? Use the telephone! This is the kind of "reasoning" I have objected to.

It's amazing to find how rapidly these guys have developed a "sour grapes" attitude after being confronted with the facts associated with what they are doing. It's amazing, and gratifying. It means that the packet network DOES have a chance to advance and grow.. All we need to do is run off some more of the riff-raff, and make things uncomfortable for I-net forwarders by continuing to point out the folly of what they are doing.

If this trend continues, we just might end up with a BBSSIG for, of, and by BBS SYSOPs, with the goal of advancing the art, AND the network.

We also might be able to counter the damage inflicted on the packet radio net by the antics of these guys, and go on to enjoy and advance that network in years to come.

When I saw what the BBSSIG had degenerated to, I didn't cry "sour grapes" and tuck my tail between my legs. I "stepped up" and pointed out the folly of the LandLine Lids, met them in the field of debate, and blew them away in short order. I'm still here and they're going away or whining, like Brian.

That's cool.

So now the LandLine Lids are buzzing off, taking thier anti-ham attitudes with them. As they leave, tails tucked firmly in, we hear thier last bit of wisdom...

Sour grapes! I'm being PICKED ON! I'm gonna pick up my marbles and GO HOME! ( Insert the hackneyed TCP/IP LandLine Lid catch-phrase of your choice here..)

That's cool. Go ahead. ;-)

Public apology: I'd like to apologize for not mentioning this fact: Not ALL TCP/IP devotees are LandLine Lids. Many of them are dedicated hams who have the best interests of ham radio at heart. We don't hear much from them, because thier actions don't fit well into the current popular "wisdom" among TCP/IP devotees of dumping our RF network in favor of landline technology. These are HAMS who CAN see why ham radio operators should of course have a strong preference for using radios over landlines, and they certainly don't deserve to share the stain on thier characters which the LandLine Lids have earned for themselves. These HAMS have my public apology for not pointing this out earlier. They most certainly don't deserve to be lumped in together with the likes of Brian and his "LLL" buddies, and if I have given that impression I am truly sorry.

## 85. [BBSSIG:1102] Re: Internet and LL forwarding

From: "Tasos Zachariou, sv1rd" <sv1rd@athnet.ath.forthnet.gr>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 95 00:48:50 EET  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <8500.sv1rd@athnet.ath.forthnet.gr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> From: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)

>

> If BBS are trying to mimic the InterNet and carry tons of EVERYTHING then  
> they will have to either spend a lot more time and \$\$\$ upgrading Networks or  
> join in the Internet.  
> (For almost the same money over the short term.)

There was a lot o discussion at the past, about how bad is the bbs mailing  
system, how difficult is the addressing and how boring is to put everything  
in the same basket and give as a lot of "all@ww" confusion.

It is not difficult to convert this bbs mailing logic to Internet like  
"mailing list" logic, with special lists for special things.

>

> .....

>

> The TCP group has the image that each USER will be his own "BBS", but that  
> doesn't help the guys with dumb-terminals or C64's. Who is going to support  
> them?

The image is that there is no need for a PBBS to take personal mail or  
special interest bulletins, but the abillity to use client server  
logic to take mail and use interactive applications, without the  
need of "maneframe" logic.

Also as far I know, all ?Nos package has the possibility for dumb-terminals  
login so there is no need for something special, to support them.

> .....

> At my work we are facing the replacement of all terminal and any PC less  
> than a 386DX as we convert our Network to TCP from X25. Should this be the  
> minimum for Amateur Packet users too ?  
> (InterNet users already know that a 386DX is about minimum for their use.)

>

There are programs to use even on a 8086 for Internetworking like first "NET  
code" from Phil Karn.

> .....

> Much of these discussions relates to Network issues as well since most BBS are  
> an integral part of Networks, and BBS Sysops are usually the driving force  
> behind Network development.

>

>

> What should we be doing about HF Packet? Let it dwindle out or invest in new  
> technologies to improve it?(assuming it will fill our needs in the future)

>

>

> I know a lot of Sysops (and non-Sysops) are monitoring this SIG so lets have  
> some

> down-to-earth discussion on the future/direction of BBS operations and their  
> interconnects.

>

> 73 - Ron velaic

>

73 Tasos sv1rd

Tasos Zachariou  
Packet Mail - SV1RD @ SV1UY.ATH.GRC.EU  
Internet mail - sv1rd@athnet.ath.forthnet.gr  
Amprnet - sv1rd@sv1rd.ampr.org  
Snail Mail - POB 3541 GR-10210 Athens Greece  
phone (030-1)3344087    fax 3344049

```
 ! _____
 / \ _____ \
 I I I I I I
 =====
 / A T H N E T \
 - Athens Packet Radio -
 / Internetworking Group \
/ _____ v _____ v \
```

## 86. Re: [BBSSIG:1104] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 19:55:29 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507081959.X204-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 8 Jul 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

[garbage deleted]

1) Charles, go back, and find ONE PLACE where I have said that I forward over the Internet! Go back! Look! YOU WON'T FIND IT!

Cause I don't!

SO KEEP quiet on things you have no idea about!

2) Tell me ONE THING I have said, that is in ANY WAY discouraging, detrimental, or counter-productive to Ham Radio! Go ahead! Look! Again you won't find it in this thread, EXCEPT in \*your\* accusations.....

3) I didn't start this thread, and simply responded to a question from the moderator. I had the GALL to \*MENTION\* the Internet, so I end up being the fall guy! Fine, doesn't matter to me. I always consider the source, and in this case, it SURELY doesn't matter.....

4) When you starting (1) accusing me of things with NO facts, (2) started calling me silly, stupid, and not a REAL Ham, (3) starting manipulating my words, and (4) kept trying to \*DRAG\* me into your own personal crusade, \*\*\*\*YEP\*\*\*\* I GOT DEFENSIVE!

As for people leaving this SIG, they are probably doing it BECAUSE they are interested in HAM BBS interests, which don't seem to be available as a topic of discussion for this SIG anymore. All we want to do is attack anyone who is not FLAMING the Internet. Quite curious, too, that you insist on attacking the Internet \*ON\* the Internet.

Barry, as we both observed, this SIG went for about two weeks without ONE single post, until \*you\* asked about BBS software and Linux. Since then, those involved in BBS software and Linux haven't been able to respond to you, for the constant crusade against the Internet.

And I don't remember THAT being the topic of (1) your original question, or (2) ANY of my responses.....

I have (unlike others) kept any input of mine to the related topic.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 87. Re: [BBSSIG:1106] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 18:33:03 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950708182511.2982A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 8 Jul 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

> On Sat, 8 Jul 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

>

> [garbage deleted]

>

> 1) Charles, go back, and find ONE PLACE where I have said that I forward over the Internet! Go back! Look! YOU WON'T FIND IT!

>

> Cause I don't!

>



> SO KEEP quiet on things you have no idea about!

GARBAGE DELETED

Brian Lantz, if you could read, and if you were half as smart as you yourself think you are, you would notice that Charles is a SYSOP of a Packet BBS! And as you say this Sig is for them. Also realize you who have so much time to cause trouble for others, that I too am a SYSOP.

Since you deleted me from your TNOS Sig for talking about JNOS, I will ask Greg to delete you from this Sig since your talking trash all the time!

I got the dinner call from my bride so will say no more. But Brian your an ass. Please go away!

73, de karl k5di, a real sysop....

---

## 88. Re: [BBSSIG:1107] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 1995 23:12:33 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507082316.b204-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 8 Jul 1995, Klarsen wrote:

>  
>  
> On Sat, 8 Jul 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:  
>  
> > On Sat, 8 Jul 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:  
> >  
> > [garbage deleted]  
> >  
> > 1) Charles, go back, and find ONE PLACE where I have said that I forward  
> > over the Internet! Go back! Look! YOU WON'T FIND IT!  
> >  
> > Cause I don't!  
> >  
> > SO KEEP quiet on things you have no idea about!

To use the tactics used by the flammers....

COMPLETELY avoided the points of my message, huh, Karl!

>  
> GARBAGE DELETED  
>  
> Brian Lantz, if you could read, and if you were half as smart as  
> you yourself think you are, you would notice that Charles is a SYSOP of a  
> Packet BBS! And as you say this Sig is for them. Also realize you who  
> have so much time to cause trouble for others, that I too am a SYSOP.  
>

And I TOO am a SYSOP, and a HAM, and a SWITCHOP. SO!

I don't believe I ever SAID you or Charles WEREN'T SYSOPS! Again, show me in my words where I DID! You can't! You can't deal with the facts, so you pass along inuendo.....

> Since you deleted me from your TNOS Sig for talking about JNOS, I  
> will ask Greg to delete you from this Sig since your talking trash all  
> the time!

YEP! I removed you from the tnos-topics mailing list, for just this EXACT same garbage! You see, I believe in running PRODUCTIVE, CO-OPERATIVE mailing lists, and I MODERATE them. Thought these were TAPRs goals, too.

I removed you after asking you on 9 DIFFERENT occasions over a 3 month period to quit rambling on with topics that no one there was interested in, and that were NOT a part of the charter of the mailing list.

I'll wait for Greg to delete me, as I'm SURE he will, since you are SO important.....

> I got the dinner call from my bride so will say no more. But

> Brian your an ass. Please go away!

More name calling! Keep proving my points, Karl.....

By the way, you completely avoided the questions, questioned my intelligence, and called me profanity! Real adult!

> 73, de karl k5di, a real sysop....

>  
>  
>

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:

```
while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
}
```

---

## 89. Behavior

From: willi\_r@mail.uwlax.edu  
Date: Sat, 8 Jul 95 23:18:20 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507090418.AA03627@mail.uwlax.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

The behavior of the proponents of the rf only concept of amateur networking are not becoming this sig. Whenever name calling starts you immediately know that that that individual has lost the argument and is desperately seeking some satisfaction in maintaining their self perceived weakening position.

I would ask folks to rethink how foolish they look to newcomers like myself, who are trying to figure out what the best way is to network and carry on with bbs systems, emergency networks, etc. and cut through the baloney and hyperbole to find a workable solution for a currently poor amateur radio network. I am willing to spend some money for hf or even microwave stuff if I can see a result that will actually work and support an improving amateur network.

When you exhibit this extreme intolerance to different positions in a supposedly democratic forum ask yourself if you really think you are helping to support your position or actually cause people to pull away from you as being unpleasantly fanatical.

Rick, KV9U

---

## 90. Re: [BBSSIG:1108] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 00:19:39 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507090519.AAA09605@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
>> > 1) Charles, go back, and find ONE PLACE where I have said that I forward
>> > over the Internet! Go back! Look! YOU WON'T FIND IT!
>> >
>> > Cause I don't!
>> >
>> >
>
```

I never said you did, but YOU went on at great length about how useless the RF net is, and how I-net is going to somehow "improve" ham radio's network. Think it through, real carefully now Brian... What were you saying, and what did it advocate?

This is another example of your crawfishing... Say something, then deny you said it later on when it's obvious to all how dumb it sounded, even to yourself!

>

>And I TOO am a SYSOP, and a HAM, and a SWITCHOP. SO!

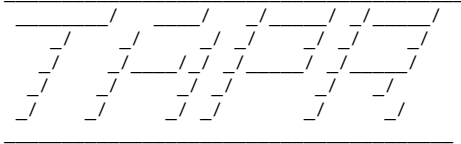
>

So what? Do you run a packet BBS, such as this SIG is set up to cover, or \*NOS?

If you DO run a packet bulletin board program, why did the suggestion that



---



Welcome to the TAPR BBS Sysops' Special Interest Group Mailing List!

The BBSSIG is considering these issues

-----

- o hierarchical addressing
- o education of users to get the most from the local bulletin boards
- o education of sysops to get the most from their software
- o establishing a library of case studies so we're all not constantly 'reinventing the wheel' when we set up or upgrade a BBS

Mechanics of the List

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The BBSSIG mailing list charter is to provide a forum for the exchange of information about packet radio bulletin board systems and the issues surrounding their operation. News, hints & kinks, case studies, and such are welcome parts that we hope will become an important resource for those participating in the forum.

TAPR is committed to the success of the various SIG lists. All lists have tremendous potential, but TAPR does not want that potential to be lost.

\*\* The criteria for appropriate publication are simple: messages should 1)  
\*\* advance the discussion at hand, 2) not perpetuate one of our many Holy Wars  
\*\* (i.e., my OS is bigger than your OS, or "your protocol stinks because"), and  
\*\* 3) avoid personal attacks (FLAMES).

In addition, we wish to re-post traffic generated here on the PBBS network. Therefore, refrain from using profanity, and do not use the forum to promote commercial activity. Please stay focused on the issues which relate to the purpose of the forum charter.

If a messages from individuals over time continue to abuse these standards, they will be removed from the list. If problems are frequent to the point of problems, the mail list can become moderated at the discretion of the SIG chairperson.

\*\* Our hope is that SIG members will bear in mind the goals of the SIGs when  
\*\* posting messages, and that very few messages will be considered outside of  
\*\* these standards. If you feel that you must FLAME someone, do it via  
\*\* personal mail or use one of the many other places available to vent spleen.  
\*\* The forums are setup for positive, productive, cooperative discussions.

BBSSIG Archive

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Past messages from the BBSSIG are availble in the TAPR.ORG archives. Send mail to 'listserv@tapr.org' with the following in the message body:

index tapr/bbssig

Other Information

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Some of the issues that are of interest and concern to the community of sysops are shared by the networking folks. Many BBS sysops also operate networks (or is that the other way around???), so it's no surprise that there is some overlap. The BBSSIG and the NETSIG will work together to make sure that we're not duplicating efforts or working at crossed purposes.

The most important part of this message is about people. If you find information on the forum that saves you some time or frustration, pass it along to a fellow sysop who don't have the privilege of accessing the Internet. Help enlighten your BBS users. Remain open minded to the ideas of others. Step forward if you have the time and desire to take a key role in any of the activities of the BBSSIG. We are looking for answers to the other questions!

The BBSSIG will be active in the creation of guidelines for sysops for more efficient BBS operation.

#### BBSSIG Meetings

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The BBSSIG tries to meet three times a year:  
TAPR Annual Meeting  
Dayton  
ARRL Digital Communications

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## 92. Re: [BBSSIG:1109] Behavior

From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Date: Sat, 08 Jul 1995 22:30:38 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507090538.AAA28398@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>The behavior of the proponents of the rf only concept of amateur networking  
>are not becoming this sig. Whenever name calling starts you immediately know  
>that that that individual has lost the argument and is desperately seeking  
>some satisfaction in maintaining their self perceived weakening position.  
>  
>I would ask folks to rethink how foolish they look to newcomers like myself,  
>who are trying to figure out what the best way is to network and carry on  
>with bbs systems, emergency networks, etc. and cut through the baloney and  
>hyperbole to find a workable solution for a currently poor amateur radio  
>network. I am willing to spend some money for hf or even microwave stuff if  
>I can see a result that will actually work and support an improving amateur  
>network.  
>  
>When you exhibit this extreme intolerance to different positions in a  
>supposedly democratic forum ask yourself if you really think you are helping  
>to support your position or actually cause people to pull away from you as  
>being unpleasantly fanatical.  
>  
>Rick, KV9U

What? Unpleasant fanatics on THIS list? Aw gee Rick, you're not serious?

73 de Jack

---

## 93. Arizona VHF/UHF Digital M

From: djm@phx-az.com (Daniel Meredith)  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 06:05:00 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <950708231234117@phx-az.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

\*\*\*\*\*IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THE ARIZONA FT. TUTHILL HAMFEST\*\*\*\*\*

You Are Cordially Invited To Attend The Arizona VHF/UHF Digital Meeting.

Ft. Tuthill - Flagstaff, Arizona

July 22, 1995 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.

Building 10

Discussion In Order:

TCP/IP  
COORDINATION REPORT (NODES ONLY)  
NODE-OP REPORTS  
SYSOP REPORTS  
NETWORK BUILD STATUS  
OPEN DISCUSSION

Co-Sponsored By:

The Arizona Network Intertie Group & The Amateur Radio Council of Arizona

Daniel J. Meredith  
Arizona VHF/UHF Digital Coordinator  
Voice : +1-602-489-7384  
Fax : +1-602-912-0426

Data-PBBS : +1-602-912-0225  
Ax.25 : n7mrp@n7mrp.az.usa.noam  
Internet : djm@phx-az.com

[Entered at 22:46 MST on 08-Jul-95]

---

\* OLXWin 1.00 \* MSI - Connecting The World (tm)

---

## 94. Re: [BBSSIG:1111] Statement of Policy

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 03:14:59 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507090814.DAA14452@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

That's good information! I must have come in after Barry had to take off, and am glad to hear there IS a moderator, and a well-defined agenda.

Since I have stated my opinion clearly, and on several occasions, I'll let it go at that, as far as this SIG is concerned.. On packet of course, it will be a different story since many local ( @USA ) postings get lost in the @WW shuffle. If you want to be heard there, it's good to be persistent.

Unfortunately, I seriously doubt this debate will carry over to packet. I don't get the impression that the folks I have argued the issue of RF/LandLine with ARE on the packet network. Then again, there's nothing like checking to find out..

I do know that when I posted a diatribe on the RF/LandLine issue on packet a few months back, I got over 40 replies with only three of those from hams who thought I was full of farina. The response here on the BBSSIG was very different.

Of the items on the actual agenda, the most interesting to me is the library of case studies. Is there an established mechanism for getting info in and out, and classifying it? ( By software, ect. )

With Barry not around, an answer from anybody would be fine.. I'd just like to know the drill on submitting case-studies, since I do have something which may be useful. If there's a standard way to search for and retrieve studies which are related to XXXX software, I'd like to know how to do that as well.

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 95. Re: [BBSSIG:1114] Re: Statement of Policy

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 04:13:28 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507090913.EAA23194@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Charles - I believe that was one that was started by Dave Wolf, W05H, previous BBS SIG chair. I am not sure if any progress was ever made.

Barry would be the logcially person to follow-up on the issues.

Cheers - Greg

According to Charles Brabham:

>  
> That's good information! I must have come in after Barry had to take off,  
> and am glad to hear there IS a moderator, and a well-defined agenda.  
>  
> Since I have stated my opinion clearly, and on several occasions, I'll let  
> it go at that, as far as this SIG is concerned.. On packet of course, it  
> will be a different story since many local ( @USA ) postings get lost in the  
> @WW shuffle. If you want to be heard there, it's good to be persistent.  
>  
> Unfortunately, I seriously doubt this debate will carry over to packet.  
> I don't get the impression that the folks I have argued the issue of  
> RF/LandLine with ARE on the packet network. Then again, there's nothing like  
> checking to find out..  
>  
> I do know that when I posted a diatribe on the RF/LandLine issue on packet a  
> few months back, I got over 40 replies with only three of those from hams

```
> who thought I was full of farina. The response here on the BBSSIG was very
> different.
```

>

```
> Of the items on the actual agenda, the most interesting to me is the library
> of case studies. Is there an established mechanism for getting info in and
> out, and classifying it? (By software, ect.)
```

>

```
> With Barry not around, an answer from anybody would be fine.. I'd just like
> to know the drill on submitting case-studies, since I do have something
> which may be useful. If there's a standard way to search for and retrieve
> studies which are related to XXXX software, I'd like to know how to do that
> as well.
```

>

>

```
> 73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM
> Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com
```

>

>

>

## 96. Re: [BBSSIG:1109] Behavior

From: Klarsen <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 04:27:07 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950709041855.1021A-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sat, 8 Jul 1995 willi\_r@mail.uwlax.edu wrote:

> The behavior of the proponents of the rf only concept of amateur networking  
> are not becoming this sig. Whenever name calling starts you immediately know  
> that that individual has lost the argument and is desperately seeking  
> some satisfaction in maintaining their self perceived weakening position.

and sometimes it is just emotion boiling over.

```
> I would ask folks to rethink how foolish they look to newcomers like myself,
> who are trying to figure out what the best way is to network and carry on
> with bbs systems, emergency networks, etc. and cut through the baloney and
> hyperbole to find a workable solution for a currently poor amateur radio
> network. I am willing to spend some money for hf or even microwave stuff if
> I can see a result that will actually work and support an improving amateur
> network.
>
```

I don't recall you asking for any information. If your willing to spend money then the only thing remaining is how to spend the money smart.

- > When you exhibit this extreme intolerance to different positions in a
- > supposedly democratic forum ask yourself if you really think you are helping
- > to support your position or actually cause people to pull away from you as
- > being unpleasantly fanatical.

```
> Rick, KV9U
>
>
```

Well Rick, tell us about your area amd what is yhere now in way of a BBS network. By the way, I use and recommend the F6FBB software for my BBS and it is good.

73, karl k5di

**97. Re: [BBSSIG:1110] Re: Linux v/s Windows**

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 09:08:49 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507090925.p204-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 9 Jul 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

```
>
> >> > 1) Charles, go back, and find ONE PLACE where I have said that I forward
> >> > over the Internet! Go back! Look! YOU WON'T FIND IT!
```

> >> >  
> >> > Cause I don't!  
> >> >  
> >  
>  
> I never said you did, but YOU went on at great length about how useless the  
> RF net is, and how I-net is going to somehow "improve" ham radio's network.  
> Think it through, real carefully now Brian... What were you saying, and what  
> did it advocate?

I did NOT! Find that in my words! QUOTE ME! You can't.....

> >And I TOO am a SYSOP, and a HAM, and a SWITCHOP. SO!  
> >  
> So what? Do you run a packet BBS, such as this SIG is set up to cover,  
> or \*NOS?

OH! So if you do NOT run W0RLI, or MSYS, or AA4RE, or FBB, you are NOT a  
BBS, and not welcome!

A BBS is determined by it's functionality, and TNOS is as much a BBS as any.

The question asked by the moderator of this SIG was explanation of BBS  
software and Linux. I have tried to contribute to that requested message  
topic, IN SPITE of your repeated attempts to make this into a personal  
holy war against the Internet.

> If you DO run a packet bulletin board program, why did the suggestion that  
> most of \*NOS's progress in the last five years consists of "imitating BBS  
> software" get your panties in such a twist?

I never said it did. YOU DID! Find it in MY words and quote me! YOU CAN't  
cause I never said it!

> Anyone who has ever run both side-by-side ( like an I-net forwarder ) and  
> has been even marginally aware of the changes in \*NOS over the last five  
> years is aware of this fact.. Why not you?

Because it is simply not the complete truth. There have been some  
features added for better compatibility with other PBBs, but they are a  
small portion of the code that has been written in the last few years.

> >>I'll wait for Greg to delete me, as I'm SURE he will, since you are SO  
> >important.....  
>  
> I doubt Greg would delete you just for not knowing what you are saying, or  
> what you have said.  
> You've been doing an excellent job of destroying your own credibility.

Show me in my words!

> No-one will need to help you out, I'm sure. Just keep talking, then a short  
> time later deny saying it... In between these episodes, whine and complain a  
> lot.

SHOW ME ONCE where I said something and then later denied it! You can't  
cause I didn't!

Look at the messages! QUOTE ME! You can't.....

> Keep it up! You're doing fine.

I know! Thanks!

>  
>  
>  
> 73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
>                                            Internet :    n5pvl@texoma.com  
>  
>



-----  
Brian A. Lantz      http://www.lantz.com      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 98. Re: [BBSSIG:1105] Re: Internet and LL forwarding

From: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 11:18:23 -0300  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507091418.LAA09089@bud.peinet.pe.ca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Thanks to Greg for (hopefully) cooling down the discussion and putting out the flames. I sure hope we can continue to "discuss", even "debate" relevant issues without being so hard-edged that it gets personal.

I believe that InterNet fwding is a fact of life today and we should be discussing how this will affect our future and what we should be doing with-it/about-it.

I see more and more Hams & non-Hams using InterNet for "Amateur Radio" purposes. ..This NewsGroup is such an example. This does not have to be a bad thing, we should be looking at the positives because whining about it will not turn back the tide.

In our area we have a new link using a commercial Satellite (ANIK) that is run by Amateurs (The UP/Down links) and has brought great connectivity between the East & West coast of Canada. It may mean that I'll retire my 20M HF port, or find another use for it but it makes my life easier now, and the users appreciate it as well.

I think we have to try to "go with the flow" to a certain extent, and at the same time make the best use of all the technologies we have, both new and old.

Remember this is a Hobby, and its supposed to be fun, so lets think of ways to make a Sysops life easy..and fun.

73 - Ron

---

## 99. Re: [BBSSIG:1117] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 10:21:36 -0600 (MDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950709095550.6482B-100000@acca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 9 Jul 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

```
> The question asked by the moderator of this SIG was explanation of BBS
> software and Linux. I have tried to contribute to that requested message
> topic, IN SPITE of your repeated attempts to make this into a personal
> holy war against the Internet.
>
```

I beg your pardon Brian. I just read the purpose of this Sig and no-where did Linux show up. I have been setting up Linux but now have stopped since summer is a crummy time to learn UNIX! And I must learn both basic unix and system management. I can do that without a problem but during summer the van pool talks about vacations taken and planned and kids and such, so there isn't time to read.

So please refrain from talking about Linux in this Sig. I will do likewise.

As you may have noticed JNOS has compressed forwarding fully compatible with the FBB format. This is interesting to BBS sysops and portends a time where a ham can serve as a Gateway from the Packet BBS Network to the local nos users and the internet. I may take a cut at doing that later.

OH yes, where did this thing against the internet get started? We

all use the internet to contribute to and read this Sig..... I forward daily to other Sysops via the Pine file-attach method and it works fine.

There was a problem with the MSYS software however. When forwarding to a file MSYS changes the address of the message! I got them and had 100% errors in address and had to manually reset them. Kendall got FBB running this week so MSYS is a thing of the past.

-karl

---

## 100. Re: [BBSSIG:1119] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 13:14:02 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9507091330.y204-0100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 9 Jul 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

```
>
>
> On Sun, 9 Jul 1995, Brian A. Lantz wrote:
>
> > The question asked by the moderator of this SIG was explanation of BBS
> > software and Linux. I have tried to contribute to that requested message
> > topic, IN SPIKE of your repeated attempts to make this into a personal
> > holy war against the Internet.
> >
> >
> I beg your pardon Brian. I just read the purpose of this Sig and
> no-where did Linux show up. I have been setting up Linux but now have
> stopped since summer is a crummy time to learn UNIX! And I must learn
> both basic unix and system management. I can do that without a problem
> but during summer the van pool talks about vacations taken and planned
> and kids and such, so there isn't time to read.
>
> So please refrain from talking about Linux in this Sig. I will do
> likewise.
>
```

Whether it is a part of the charter or not, Barry (the moderator of this SIG and TAPR's representative to it) asked in [BBSSIG:994]

```
> If there are any Linux BBS users out there, would you take a few
> minutes and tell us about your systems.
```

I simply responded. If this violates the charter, please take this up with Barry, as [BBSSIG:994] was the second Linux-related posting from the moderator.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 101. Re: [BBSSIG:1107] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: fljkj@planete.net (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Sun, 09 Jul 1995 19:11:59 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507091711.TAA17013@unix10.pressimage.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Brian your an ass. Please go away!

I did not expect to see such things in a dialog between amateurs...  
I don't know if Brian will leave, but i'll write my UNSUBSCRIBE message just after this one.

Your middle-aged people are doing nothing but trying to be "BBSSIG GODs"  
When you'll have succeeded, there won't be any other reader here.

>73, de karl k5di, a real sysop....

This single sentence sums up everything.

- NO NEED TO ANSWER I'LL BE UNSUBSCRIBED -

>From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ -- PGP Email welcome  
> F1JKJ@planete.net <  
Fidonet 2:323/27.1  
Compuserve ID 100407,436

---

## 102. Re: [BBSSIG:1116] Re: Behavior

From: willi\_r@mail.uwlax.edu  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 95 12:15:41 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9507091715.AA01369@mail.uwlax.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl K5DI had commented:

> I don't recall you asking for any information. If your willing to  
>spend money then the only thing remaining is how to spend the money smart.

Perhaps you missed it in all the excitement. BTW, I have heard that anyone that has a problem with low blood pressure may find that this sig is the place to be:) I was the one who posted the Network Debate comments/questions on Thursday, 7-6-95. We received three responses to that thread by: Dave w05H, Bill KB8WYP, and Hank, W0RLI with various views. Maybe this should be on the netsig?

> Well Rick, tell us about your area amd what is yhere now in way  
>of a BBS network. By the way, I use and recommend the F6FBB software for  
>my BBS and it is good.  
>  
>  
>73, karl k5di

Maybe this would be a good time to describe our Western Wisconsin area. We are fairly isolated (not like the great plains, of course)but are on on a path from Chicago area to Twin Cities with Madison, WI on one side at 150 miles and Rochester, MN on the other at about 70 miles.

I was very active in the past on voice and cw traffic nets and did a fair amount of keyboarding with rtty/amtor on hf and then rtty vhf with our regenerative repeater which was decommissioned about two weeks after critical mass was reached in the packet community some years ago. However, the growth since then has not been very great. We have a regional (approx 50+ mile radius) networking group and a state networking group (WAPR - Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio) which are both chaired by the same person at this time. He admits that there is apparently an interest in TCP/IP but not sure why you would want it. Also, the view seems to be that 9K6 "hi speed" networking should only be used for backbones. I asked that we pick a frequency for local 9K6 activity and barely got that approved before another individual who wants absolute control over all bbs and networking tried to table such an idea. That individual is also the local bbs op who is opposed to any redundancy in bbs operation and discourages any others from knowing about bbs operation. And he says he will be the last person to ever connect amateur radio to the internet.

I have not been on local 1200 baud packet as it has no interest for me personally as it is now constituted. It can be great for newcomers and low budget folks with the 8088's and yes, the Vic 20's and more upscale C-64's, and those who want some messaging capablilites who have no internet access or hf. But even 9K6 stuff seems like it will be only so-so in terms of speed for neat RF applications. There is zero interest for anything faster than 9K6 at this time. I have tried to start a sig under the auspices of the local group for three years, but no other interest by anyone (OK one other has a slight interest). You can't force people into this. They have to realize that it is going to be very beneficial for them to have this technology. And I will be honest and tell you that until I got on the Internet a few months back, I really could not articulate just what better networking meant. I am still only starting to figure this out and need groups like bbssig and netsig to explain what are the real and actual pluses and minuses of various approaches. It has been hard to filter this from the signal to noise ratio at times:)

>From what I can tell, the only practical networking environment that makes sense seems to be a tcp/ip network. I would welcome an explanation of other networks that would let us do the types of things we can do on internet like real time connects, file transfers, picture transmission, web pages, and e-mail routing worldwide, better than tcp/ip. But is tcp/ip working OK over

store and forward paths and hf paths or do they have to be treated differently?

Can you imagine the impossibility of creating any kind of hi speed link over the great plains area. I was just back from a trip to the Black Hills area of S. Dakota and there are areas that really don't have even voice repeater access. Even along the interstate highway. In our area, 9k6 backbones can be very fragile and go down with no one to fix them for extended periods. And we don't have the resources for distant nodes that have redundancy and emergency power, etc. so they are exceptionally vulnerable. That is why I am coming to the view that the internet is the only practical and realistic way to enhance the higher speed digital WWARN (ad hoc World Wide Amateur Radio Network).

Later on I want to outline thoughts I have on emergency communications. All these views are not necessarily "THE WAY", but are a fairly informed and practical view over about 30+ years of evolution and change. For those of you, like me, who have actually operated in emergency conditions and work directly with agencies like Red Cross as communications and DRT's (disaster response teams) like we do I welcome any suggestions.

Although it is sometimes hard to change direction when the folks who would be doing it do not see this as a fun, technically interesting thing to do that will let them do stuff we that they can not currently do, I figure I have another 20 years or more to keep evolving.

One of older local guys said, "who needs any newer stuff or faster speeds or tcp/ip, etc" and I said hmmm, wonder if you were against sideband when it first came out. Answer: "well, yes I was". But even he has a Kenwood TS-950S now:)

Rick, KV9U

---

### 103. Re: [BBSSIG:1117] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 11:52:26 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507091652.LAA06425@ns1.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'll let Brian's last posting speak for itself.

What could I possibly add?

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                 Internet :    n5pvl@texoma.com

---

### 104. RE: [BBSSIG:1123] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: "JEFF S." <jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu>  
Date: Sun, 09 Jul 1995 14:36:55 EDT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <00993191.E7359DC0.4@sae.ssu.umd.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> What could I possibly add?

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                 Internet :    n5pvl

I think you guys have gone far enough..please add nothing.

Jeff  
KE4ARH

---

### 105. Re: [BBSSIG:1119] Re: Linux v/s Windows

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 15:15:39 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507092015.PAA00410@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>        So please refrain from talking about Linux in this Sig. I will do  
> likewise.  
>

Karl,

Thanks for the suggestion on dropping Linux from the approved topic list. Unfortunately, there are packet BBS that operate with Linux and it would seem to be in the interest of the BBSSIG to provide positive support for those operators.

Linux will continue to be an acceptable topic for factual discussions on the BBSSIG.

Barry

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 106. Re: [BBSSIG:1094] BBSSIG - NOT!

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 15:29:40 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507092029.PAA00484@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Jack kf5mg wrote:  
>

...  
> Issues. I asked a BBS Specific question ( info on the new compression  
> code that FBB uses ) and all I've seen since I joined this mailing list  
> is about 20 pieces of junk. The stuff here is as bad as all the

Can anyone provide some REAL information on this for Jack?

Thanks,  
Barry

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 107. BBSSIG Changes

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 16:29:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507092129.QAA00646@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

July 9, 1995

To: BBSSIG  
From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT

In order to return this group to a factual discussion of issues which relate to BBS operation, the SIG will be moderated.

I will post a copy of the BBSSIG charter to you all to review. This is a general statement which does not limit the discussion but serves as a means to focus it.

Since most of us are interested in advancing the operation of BBS and the packet network, expansion of topics to new and productive areas will be encouraged.

Your positive contributions are welcome on all related topics. Thanks to those of you who have made helpful comments in the past and I encourage you to continue to participate in the BBSSIG.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

## 108. Linux

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 16:36:26 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507092136.QAA00658@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

What seems like a long time ago, I posted a comment on an informal survey of the Sysops at Dayton and St. Louis. The purpose of my posting was not to spark a discussion of the relative merits of each OS. Those who actually operate the various OS's are aware of its strengths and weaknesses.

One objective of my post was to solicit comments from BBS operators who are running Linux BBS. I would like to reknew that offer.

If there are operators out there running packet BBS under Linux, I would be interested in hearing from you. If there is sufficient interest, I am willing to establish a separate subgroup to provide an environment to encourage your efforts.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 109. Re: [BBSSIG:1128] Linux

From: Fred Peerenboom <peerenbf@dmaphub.dma.org>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 18:06:03 -0400 (EDT)  
To: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SV4.3.91.950709180129.25071B-100000@dmaphub.dma.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello Barry,

Here in Dayton, yup, we are running tnos as a full service bbs under or maybe it should be said, "with" linux. A very very stable environment to say the least. With the added features to tnos that make it compatible with some of the other "more exotic" forms of bbs and the compressed forwarding it has made the transition of the tcp protocols into ham radio bbs' a real thing.

Fred ke8tq@n8acv.#day.oh.usa co-sysop MVFMA BBS with John, ag9v

On Sun, 9 Jul 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> What seems like a long time ago, I posted a comment on an informal  
> survey of the Sysops at Dayton and St. Louis. The purpose of my  
> posting was not to spark a discussion of the relative merits of  
> each OS. Those who actually operate the various OS's are aware of  
> its strengths and weaknesses.  
>

> One objective of my post was to solicit comments from BBS operators  
> who are running Linux BBS. I would like to reknew that offer.  
>

> If there are operators out there running packet BBS under Linux,  
> I would be interested in hearing from you. If there is sufficient  
> interest, I am willing to establish a separate subgroup to provide  
> an environment to encourage your efforts.  
>

> 73 Barry  
>

>

> --  
>

> Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
> barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam  
>

---

## 110. [BBSSIG:1130] Re: insults (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 9 Jul 1995 19:35:13 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507100035.TAA01155@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: insults

Since I see ass as a real american and english word I see it as not a major transgression. Since I enjoy this Sig I do now provide a public apology to Brian.

73, de karl k5di

On Sun, 9 Jul 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Karl,  
> Your calling Brian an ass on this public forum is entirely  
> unacceptable. I expect a public apology or removing yourself  
> from the SIG.  
>  
> I'm sending this as a private msg and I'm copying G Jones.  
>  
> Barry  
>  
> --  
>  
> Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
> barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam  
>  
>

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 111. [BBSSIG:1133] Re: Behavior (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 09:38:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507101438.JAA04003@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Behavior

>Karl K5DI had commented:  
>  
>> I don't recall you asking for any information. If your willing to  
>>spend money then the only thing remaining is how to spend the money smart.

Aircraft designers in WW2 were often faced with making a choice between armour and performance. Which is more important for the application you have in mind, and to which degree?

In general; Graphics, sound and most fancy interfaces use up an awful lot of spectrum. This doesn't mean they are bad.. Actually they're pretty nice of course. But still, if you intend to enjoy things like this or make them available, you'll need some sort of high-speed network.

A character-based interface is of course a lot easier to use over poorer paths. For this reason, most of the packet network is "pioneered", ( going in new directions, covering new areas ) with a character-based interface. If you find yourself with more throughput than you need for your character-based stuff, then it's a good time to consider upgrading to a graphic interface. You can have the graphic interface in the first place, too! It takes a bit more bucks and effort, but many feel it is worthwhile. Funding is the main issue, I would expect, and is what such a decision would hinge on in my case... I'd do the high-speed stuff if I could, but if not I'd sure much rather have a charater-based interface than none at all. I'd use it, enjoy it, and plan for a later effort to upgrade to a higher speed, and more features.

There are good reasons for going both ways, and it's up to you to look things over and see which looks best for your situation.

73 DE Charles Brabham      Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

### 112. [BBSSIG:1134] Apology (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 09:41:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507101441.JAA04019@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Apology

In a message to this Sig I called Brian a name the moderator finds offensive. So to all that read this message please accept my apology for using that word. It does nothing to increase the information in the message.

73, de karl k5di

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

### 113. [BBSSIG:1132] Re: Linux v/s Windows (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 09:44:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507101444.JAA04046@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "John W. (Bill) Hays, W00MV" <billh@netins.net>  
Subject: Re: Linux v/s Windows

Amen!!!!!!  
Let's get back to civil discourse abt ham radio, pse.  
Bill  
W00MV

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

### 114. [BBSSIG:1138] BBS Software wishlist (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 16:46:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507102146.QAA01636@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: BBS Software wishlist

A while back, Hank W0RLI asked for ideas, for future BBS software. I had an idea, but it took awhile to think it through so I've been slow in responding.

CONNECTION STATS:

I've made a side-hobby of setting up and running different BBS software on a spare computer, to see what they all were like. Every now and then I try out new versions, upgrades, ect, to try and stay current. One unusual program I tried out was GTEPMS, written by N2GTE if I remember correctly. There was a connections stats server program for GTEPMS which would allow you to point a mouse cursor at a list of forwarding partners and get a comprehensive set of connection stats for the station you click on.. The feature I'm wanting to point out here was the program's ability to give



I used the info to figure out which HF station on the net I should concentrate on working with, and at what times, but I remember thinking at the time that this real-time overall data-flow figure ought to have a lot more uses.

As access speeds rise, BBS users will expect to see data-intensive features such as a graphical interface which are not always appropriate over long, slow, busy or poor paths. Under those circumstances a simpler interface would do a lot better job, of course; The old tried 'n true character based interface we currently use.

If the BBS software itself were aware of the performance of each individual link on a real-time basis ( buffered a bit ), it could use this info to automatically set an upper limit for the level of interface complexity for each connect, as it occurred AND in real-time. If the level of channel activity went up, propagation waned, or the link degraded for whatever reason, the software would be able to react intelligently without manual intervention by the SYSOP or User, and the more data-intensive graphical interface would only be available to stations who's connection was good enough at that given time, ect.

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editorial control that's fine, and it's much the same as the other media.

However, if a PBBS does not have an up-front statement of editorial policy then users have every reason to expect that their postings will be accepted. To not accept a posting without an up-front statement of editorial policy is indeed censorship.

The real problem, however is with forwarding.

Users expect that if their message or bulletin is accepted by their local PBBS then it will be forwarded to its destination. This is a reasonable expectation. It is quite understandable for users to consider deliberate interference with the delivery of their message, based upon its content, to be censorship.

When my PBBS was operational I considered it my responsibility to forward each and every message and bulletin received (with the singular exception of those few messages which could, without question, subject me to FCC action). I forwarded many messages and bulletins which contained content I found offensive. Nonetheless, I passed them along as I considered that to be my responsibility.

As I see it, the reason we have this debate is that too few sysops have established (and enforce) editorial policies.

What may be needed is an editorial policy that the majority of PBBS sysops could agree to and enforce on messages originating on their system.

I suggest that those who feel there are messages and/or bulletins being handled by the PBBS forwarding network which don't belong should work together and come up with a recommended editorial policy for the group's consideration and possible implementation.

Comments?

73, Andy

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|                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| _____<br>  Tech Producer/Editor<br>  WCBS-TV Channel 2 News<br>  New York, NY USA |  | _____<br>Internet: kb7uv@panix.com  <br>http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/  <br>--- INSERT COMMERCIAL HERE --- |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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|                              |                                     |                                |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Barry Buelow<br>barry@ia.net | WA0RJT<br>wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam | Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

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## 116. [BBSSIG:1144] Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 17:00:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507102200.RAA01735@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Improved Bulletin Control

There has been a lot of talk by others about how few bulletins are read and how many compared to mail. This is the case at my BBS as well. I have 35 users that check the mail daily and it's usual they read about 10 bulletins from the 250 new ones I get most days.

It is very true that bulletins cause mail to be sent from 1 ham to the other. Be it help on a problem or "I'll buy it", this mail is what we do the BBS net for. We cannot control what bulletins are written but I am sure that the FBB software can be configured to only accept approved To verbs. I plan to play with this now and see what can and can not be done. Then I will report my findings in this Sig and over packet as a p sysop message.

Please, those of you using other software check up on how you can dump all but sysop agreed to To headers. I already know how to put a list of approved To verbs into the information the user gets when he asks for HELP!

Watch for more details this week.

73, de karl k5di

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 117. [BBSSIG:1141] Re: Behavior (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 17:05:45 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507102205.RAA01765@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: Behavior

On Jul 8, 11:33pm, willi\_r@mail.uwlax.edu wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1109] Behavior  
> The behavior of the proponents of the rf only concept of amateur networking  
> are not becoming this sig. Whenever name calling starts you immediately know  
> that that that individual has lost the argument and is desperately seeking  
> some satisfaction in maintaining their self perceived weakening position.

You have identified the wrong group. It is the folks who advocate the abandonment of the ham radio network for the use of commercial networking that have posted the real bozo posts ...

> I would ask folks to rethink how foolish they look to newcomers like myself,  
> who are trying to figure out what the best way is to network and carry on  
> with bbs systems, emergency networks, etc. and cut through the baloney and  
> hyperbole to find a workable solution for a currently poor amateur radio  
> network. I am willing to spend some money for hf or even microwave stuff if  
> I can see a result that will actually work and support an improving amateur  
> network.

Good news! The CLOVER network has two stations in the midwest at present, and both are in Indiana. If you are located where you have good vhf/uhf links to MN/SD/ND/MB, we would sure appreciate your joining the network. With the introduction of the P-38 CLOVER card, taking part is a lot cheaper than it used to be. If you have an interest in going this route, will be glad to help any way I can.

> When you exhibit this extreme intolerance to different positions in a  
> supposedly democratic forum ask yourself if you really think you are helping  
> to support your position or actually cause people to pull away from you as  
> being unpleasantly fanatical.

I disagree. But that's my opinion only. I'd rather see all the cards on the table, and know exactly what people think. Some of us run "all or most all" of the different modes under discussion, and see some major problems cropping up in the bbs network.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com      "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

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Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 118. [BBSSIG:1142] Re: Internet and LL forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 17:06:13 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507102206.RAA01772@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: Internet and LL forwarding

On Jul 9, 9:19am, Ron VE1AIC wrote:

<deletia>

> I believe that InterNet fwding is a fact of life today and we should be  
> discussing  
> how this will affect our future and what we should be doing with-it/about-it.  
>  
> I see more and more Hams & non-Hams using InterNet for "Amateur Radio"  
purposes.  
> .This NewsGroup is such an example. This does not have to be a bad thing,  
> we should  
> be looking at the positives because whining about it will not turn back the  
> tide.

I'll post my prediction again, since it probably got lost in the noise:

I predict that within the next 12-36 months, the long haul HF network will have died, because all long haul traffic will be carried via commercial networks instead of ham radio. This means that the telephone will supplant the HF links, and there will not be viable uhf/vhf links to replace the HF links.

What do I mean by "... all long haul traffic" ? I mean ALL of it. Personal, NTS, Bulletins. I mean that the participation in organized networks of HF linking systems will have disappeared.

> In our area we have a new link using a commercial Satellite (ANIK) that is  
run  
> by Amateurs (The UP/Down links) and has brought great connectivity between  
the  
> East & West coast of Canada. It may mean that I'll retire my 20M HF port, or  
> find another use for it but it makes my life easier now, and the users  
> appreciate it  
> as well.

Exactly my point. The commercial network (via ANIK) will supplant the ham radio network.

>  
> I think we have to try to "go with the flow" to a certain extent, and at the  
> same time make the best use of all the technologies we have, both new and  
old.

If this were the "LL Lids" SIG, or the "let's all use the telephone to have some fun" SIG then discussion of how to use commercial networks to supplant ham radio networks might be on the agenda. Unless I'm wrong (and I'm always willing to stick my neck out and say something and be proved wrong) this SIG is for discussion of ham radio networking, not commercial networking.

Commercial networking is trivial - you get a modem and a computer and a bit of software in a box and you are up and running. Ham radio networking is a bit more difficult ...

> Remember this is a Hobby, and its supposed to be fun, so lets think of ways  
to  
> make a Sysops life easy..and fun.

Yup, that is the goal of this SIG as I see it also. But remember WHICH hobby we are discussing: it is not "computers" or "the telephone" but "ham radio". For every link we think "must use non ham means" we should be discussing HOW and WHEN we will replace that link with ham radio.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet            : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com       "Parts 'R Us!"

Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 119. Fwds via ham vs. commercial

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 17:20:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507102220.RAA01836@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Folks, there are currently links over both ham rf channels and via commercial channels. There are various reasons for selecting one or the other.

Some advantages of ham rf channels:  
interest in the hobby, (people just want to do it)  
ability to adapt and reconfigure in case of emergency,  
ease of adding new stations where needed,

Some advantages of commercial channels:  
usually wider bandwidth than ham rf channels,  
require little technical maintenance,  
maybe its free.

Arguments over the relative merits of either are not going to convince people to change. Note that I said "arguments". Change will be brought about by upsetting the balance. One system needs to develop advantages over the other and WIN acceptance.

As a group, we should be expending our efforts to improve the performance of the amateur system and winning people away from the wire services.

Ways to improve the ham system include characterizing the operation of users, BBS, NOS, servers, whatever. In the commercial software arena, the most successful products have integrated a variety of functions which previously were separate and difficult to use.

This is one example of an area that we might explore as a group.

73 Barry

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 120. [BBSSIG:1151] Re: [NETSIG:1435] Re: Internet and LL forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 10 Jul 1995 18:00:12 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507102300.SAA01984@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: [NETSIG:1435] Re: Internet and LL forwarding

>On Jul 7, 6:46pm, Bob Nielsen wrote:  
>  
>> It was my understanding that the h.f. automatic forwarding networks  
>> only accepted messages addressed to a specific station, not all the  
>> all@everywhere, etc. stuff which clogs the BBSs so much that I almost never  
>> issue a 'list' command anymore. Is this not the case?  
>  
>This is not the case. At least in the HF network in which I am  
>personally involved, any and all traffic is supported. i.e. we  
>do not censor the traffic in any way at all, other than to make  
>certain part 97 restrictions are followed.  
>  
>A specific exmple: I forward every single "@ USA", "@ AMSAT",  
>and "@ ARRL" bulletin to W5X0, per the request of his users.  
>

> ... Hank  
>

True on that channel (?), but W5X0 is also on 14.098 where bulletin transmissions are not "permitted", not even ARRL/AMSAT. Then again another BBS near here gets all sorts of bulletins (including USA/WW) from a US BBS on 30m.

73 - Ron velaic

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 121. [BBSSIG:1155] Re: Internet and LL forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 08:19:28 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111319.IAA00719@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: willi\_r@mail.uwlax.edu  
Subject: Re: Internet and LL forwarding

Hank, W0RLI has said:

>I predict that within the next 12-36 months, the long haul HF network  
>will have died, because all long haul traffic will be carried via  
>commercial networks instead of ham radio. This means that the telephone  
>will supplant the HF links, and there will not be viable uhf/vhf links  
>to replace the HF links.  
>  
>What do I mean by "... all long haul traffic" ? I mean ALL of it.  
>Personal, NTS, Bulletins. I mean that the participation in organized  
>networks of HF linking systems will have disappeared.

After trying to understand all the pros and cons of internet, worm holes, hf, vuhf, and microwave networking, I still seem to find myself looking at these points that appear the most logical to me:

1. Internet/worm holes networks are currently and in the foreseeable future, the only practical way to span areas with no network interest or population.
2. The rf networks can be greatly enhanced by any hi speed connection to other networks to make up an overall WWARN (World Wide Amateur Radio Network)
3. The current WWARN is inadequate to handle much real time traffic and even has very limited time value traffic message delivery. Delivery times can exceed one day from my experience.

Directions to solve this seem to me to be:

1. Highest possible speed for local networks hopefully using RF paths almost exclusively depending on the local support by those interested and willing to allocate their resources freely and willingly.
2. Highest possible speed for point to point modes as determined by the interest of individuals and groups. These PtP methods can include RF if those who support such a system can develop and keep operational. I believe minimum speed would have to be 1-10 MBps for significant data handling.
3. Save the slowspeed HF RF systems such as CLOVER II and perhaps the coming PACTOR II for the inevitable disasters that will terminate the hi speed systems, whether amateur or non-amateur. I know from studying the actual developments at wide area disasters that the amateur will often fail first (repeaters, digis, etc.) since they are not hardened sites with emergency power, and a cadre of technicians to keep them operational. I cannot stress this enough. I know some don't want to hear this but it seems to be proven that the wirelines and now even cellular phones keep operating. If someone has information to the contrary I sure want to hear it.
4. We went through this same thing in cw/voice traffic handling when packet came along. Those of us who saw what the potential of this new mode would be, tried to elicit support of the net organizations. I was a delegate at the time in my state of Wisconsin. There was NO support. Tremendous opposition and poo pooing of this packet stuff. I am sure you know what

happened to much of traffic handling. Then the Aplans came along and further changed history.

5. Realistically in emergency situations, the main local mode that will be used is tactical voice, primarily simplex and if operational or made operational, with emergency replacements, repeater operation (witness OK bombing to bring in a repeater to fill in the gaps in downtown OKC). Some packet can be used depending on the disaster to transmit some kinds of info, like lists of supplies needed, that sort of thing. For outside the affected area, again voice is often used, and data can be used for H&W messages. Almost nothing is allowed into the area until local phone service can be restored since the messages would be undeliverable. That is why HF digital stuff needs to be ubiquitously located everywhere because you never know when your area could be affected. And then we need to keep the HF system operating daily with routine traffic so it is in place on moments notice.

6. In an ideal world, if we could tie all these different modes together by a common protocol like TCP/IP it would be great. But some have suggested that this protocol is not workable in all cases so bridging is needed that would make it more seamless between networks. If we don't do this, then we are not going to be able to compete with NII type networks that are coming like a steamroller. (Bet those NII type links will be the first to fail in an emergency). This is why I am so oriented on having a decent HF network now that the technology is almost here for low cost/modem of the month updatability. Amateur radio will no longer be able to compete on real high speed networks but we will probably always be able to help with our ability to lash up relatively simple systems and get them to work.

Rick, KV9U

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 122. [BBSSIG:1156] Re: Fwds via ham vs. commercial (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 08:28:09 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111328.IAA00757@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

> From bbssig@tapr.org Tue Jul 11 00:17:02 1995  
> Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 00:16:54 -0500  
> Message-Id: <199507110458.XAA20227@ns1.texoma.com>  
> Reply-To: n5pvl@texoma.com  
> Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Precedence: bulk  
> From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
> To: barry@ia.net  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1156] Re: Fwds via ham vs. commercial  
> X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
> X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
> Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
> X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Version 1.4.4  
>  
> This message was submitted by n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham) to list  
> bbssig@tapr.org. If you forward it back to the list, it will be distributed  
> without the paragraphs above the dashed line. You may edit the Subject: line  
> and the text of the message before forwarding it back.  
>  
> If you edit the messages you receive into a digest, you will need to remove  
> these paragraphs and the dashed line before mailing the result to the list.  
> Finally, if you need more information from the author of this message, you  
> should be able to do so by simply replying to this note.  
>  
> ----- Message requiring your approval -----  
> Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
> Subject: Re: Fwds via ham vs. commercial  
>  
>  
> > Ways to improve the ham system include characterizing the operation of  
> > users, BBS, NOS, servers, whatever. In the commercial software  
> > arena, the most successful products have integrated a variety of

> >functions which previously were separate and difficult to use.  
> >  
> >This is one example of an area that we might explore as a group.  
> >  
> >  
> >73 Barry  
>  
> I followed you pretty well until I got to the paragraphs above. Could you  
> expand on that? It sounds interesting, but I didn't "get it".  
>  
>  
> 73 DE Charles Brabham   Packet Radio :   N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
>                               Internet :   n5pvl@texoma.com  
>  
> "I was gratified to be able to answer the question promptly; I said I didn't  
> know."  
>  
>

Charles,  
I'm just casting a lure to see if someone will bite. Is there an area  
of packet (digital mode) software that can integrate several functions  
which are currently performed by separate programs?

Is there a feature in one piece of software that should be brought into  
BBS code? For example, could HF BBS scan a couple of freqs similar  
to the way Amlink does?

I'm just now getting back to the right time zone! So minor lapses  
in consciousness should be clearing up real soon now. (-)

73 Barry

---

### 123. [BBSSIG:1157] BID's (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 08:28:45 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111328.IAA00773@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: BID's

Is there any difference between all capital BID's and lower case BID's?  
Are they interchangeable?

--

Bill

Reply-To:       vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

--

Barry Buelow       WA0RJT       Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net       wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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### 124. [BBSSIG:1158] Crazy Idea (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 08:29:46 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111329.IAA00780@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Crazy Idea

Maybe something really productive can come out of this forwarding  
discussion.

Last year we lost the RF path (that's another story...) that was  
feeding the eastern 2/3's of Montana with bulletins. I started



picking up some traffic via the Internet to keep things going. It was useful and an interesting exercise. But it was also expensive, and that's no fun.

The most frustrating part was that I was darn close to being set up to take traffic on HF. I spent many hours tracing the BBS's passing bulletins. Lacking an STA, decent transmitting antenna, and access into one of the "networks" there was nothing I could do but watch.

If the bulletins were being passed in broadcast/unconnected mode with the proper protocol and software; I, and dozens or even hundreds of other stations, could have been picking up and passing them on. This would be similar to what's going to be done (I believe) on Anik.

The hardware necessary is much cheaper and far more common place than Clover or the other newer and better systems as standard 300 baud packet could be used.

It seems to me, that with the changing propagation on HF, it could be said that it's very similar to how a satellite data system works. Varying connectivity with a path from one to many stations. It would make far more sense to use the appropriate medium (unconnected broadcasting) for data transfer than the point-to-point system with zillions of hidden transmitters, interference sources and retransmissions of messages to multiple systems now in effect. Wouldn't that make sense even for Clover, PACTOR or GTOR systems? Heck - this would be a big improvement even on many of the VHF systems I know of in this area.

Designing a protocol to allow receiving pieces of a bulletin and filling them in later shouldn't be hard. (It's already done for the OSCAR's...) Then all that's left would be to add it to the existing BBS software. And stand-alone packages could be created for folks that just want to read bulletins.

Friends - I think there is a opportunity here for a big step forward in the passing of traffic and bulletins.

--

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

ps. Having to pay 14 cents a minute just for an UUCP connection puts me, and many Hams in Montana, in the position of looking towards the RF paths as a supplement or replacement for the landline - which is contrary to the current trends being discussed here.

--

Barry Buelow WA0RJT Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 125. [BBSSIG:1159] Networking ideas (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 08:31:00 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111331.IAA00798@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Russet@world.std.com  
Subject: Networking ideas

I have both a JNOS110k NOS system and an AA4RE BBS system using two computers, hooked into a hexipus board. Actually I use two hexipus boards. I have had a lot of fun "tuning" up the systems, and going through a lengthy learning curve. I have found that OS/2 has been the most optimum fo both computers.

I have even tried a single computer, under DesqView, worked fairly well, and under OS/2 even better. During all this time, my goal has been to monitor networking efficiency, and I cannot say I have the optimum system, but I hope I am sharing a continued progression along the learning curve.

In reading over various comments and feeling "flames", the biggest weakness is still the RF paths and link stabilities. I have to side with those people that support a better infrastructure.

The idea of a "standard" infrastructure and "who manages the infrastructure" is something that will evolve. In my mind, we should study the concept of the PCS, and look for lower cost links closely spaced. Also, there should be a lot of redundancies. There should be more emphasis on integrated transceivers imbedded in antennas to keep losses down, and less expensive coax to bring the IF to the computer. You can look to some of the commercial ISM band RF modems out on the market, where prices have been tumbling down. typical RF baud rates are 9600 baud, and some of the flea power modems have a reasonable range for the price.

I have five backbones here, and I'll always want a point-point backbone to pass large amounts of data, but hams being hams, they shut off radios or use radios to do other things (like make QSOs!). If there were PCS like packet radios, mounted outside, then they won't be diddled with (another ham trait!).

The last thing I am interested in is being a super backbone, although that's wonderful for the egos of some people. A distributed system makes more sense from a reliability standpoint of view. That also tells me that the distributed system has to be simple and cheap. That's where the thrills of development should be.

Then the last question should be: for what purpose?

The purpose should be for the movement of the largest amount of information in a reasonable time for nothing in cost other than the initial investment in the radio modem. That should be the theme.

If I wanted to move information, I would call someone on the phone or use the internet, because I am paying for instant information. Would you pay for the information that moves over the amateur networks now? I doubt it.

However, all the information that flows over the network is kind of interesting! Not necessarily to read, but to figure out how to either pipeline the information or distribute the information. So it's really a test bed. I don't need to debate the information and the content of the messages. The information seems rather tame.

It's interesting to see all the software programs under development, and I am glad someone out there is working hard to optimize it. However, when it is all said and done, you still need to put the information onto a local link and get it to a person that will read it. The internet is the giant pipeline, but it's the local user that has to be served. That's where the networking should be!

73, de Pete  
W1UU@W1UU.#EMA.MA.  
w1uu@switch.andover.ampr.org  
Russet@world.std.com

Peter K. Butler  
Russet@world.std.com

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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## 126. Local network support

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 08:42:14 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111342.IAA00846@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

One item which was mentioned was local support for the packet network. I believe that 99.9% of the people working on the networks are interested in improving their local and regional connectivity.

This is partly traditional, repeaters and club activities have limited geographical scope. It is also economical, it's hard to collect money in Iowa for a link in eastern Montana. Even if that Montana link is more crucial to the national network.

So the national network, beyond the regional level, is strictly ad hoc.

Given this situation, can network improvements be made by:

1. Consciously allocating a portion of all regional networks to national traffic? This means building it faster, better, maybe farther,...
2. Establish a truly national network. I don't know exactly what form that takes. Maybe it consists of several hf nets and more adaptive routing than the current BBS store/fwd.
3. (fill in the blanks)

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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### 127. [BBSSIG:1167] Re: BID's (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 13:05:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111805.NAA02601@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: BID's

>Is there any difference between all capital BID's and lower case BID's?  
>Are they interchangeable?  
>  
>--  
>  
>Bill  
>  
>Reply-To:            vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us

Bill I find that in FBB all BIDs are converted to UPPERCASE so there is no confusion.

73 - Ron  
ve1aic

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

### 128. [BBSSIG:1168] Re: Crazy Idea (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 13:06:28 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111806.NAA02617@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: Crazy Idea

>[snip]  
>If the bulletins were being passed in broadcast/unconnected mode with the  
>proper protocol and software; I, and dozens or even hundreds of other  
>stations, could have been picking up and passing them on. This would  
>be similar to what's going to be done (I believe) on Anik.  
>  
Actually its the Pacsats and it seems to work well.  
This brings back something that has bugged me for years. Why doesnt ARRL  
broadcast Packet bulletins? They dont seem to even want to feed thier local BBS,  
correct me if I am wrong but dont most ARRL bulletins originate from InterNet?  
  
While operating on a 15M Packet Net we used to get blasted by ARRL broadcasts  
in RTTY and Amtor. Too bad they didnt get modern enuff to use a modern broadcast  
protocol.  
>

>Designing a protocol to allow receiving pieces of a bulletin and filling  
>them in later shouldn't be hard. (It's already done for the OSCAR's...)  
>Then all that's left would be to add it to the existing BBS software. And  
>stand-alone packages could be created for folks that just want to read  
bulletins.  
>  
>Friends - I think there is a opportunity here for a big step forward in the  
>passing of traffic and bulletins.  
>  
>--  
>  
>Bill  
>

Great idea Bill, but other than ARRL who is going to to the transmitting?  
In organized Nets perhaps one or two stations could be the broadcasters in each  
direction. It works well for Pacsat because its 1 transmitter that covers a  
wide area  
(almost the whole world?) multiple times per day.

I am thinking of another application that might be interested too, what if a  
BBS which  
serves a LAN where to transmit UI (OK I wont use the term broadcast any more),  
bulletins onto the LAN channel at scheduled times, controlled like in a  
fwding file.  
The Sysop could then set the time & type of bulletins transmitted.  
Users:  
Users on the LAN channel who wish to receive bulletins mere run the  
protocol/program  
and get their own DTH delivery.(Direct To Home).  
I know TPK has a similar feature but the BBS only beacons the titles, if 5  
users want the  
same bulletin they have to each login and get it, albiet automatically &  
compressed  
but still it would be transmitted 5 times Using the Broadcast Protocol the  
BBS might  
only have to transmit the said bulletin once or twice.  
If the user station did not copy ALL of the bulletin(s) perhaps a routine  
similar to the  
TPK system could be used to ask the BBS to re-transmit the bulletin(s) either in  
whole or it part.

BBS:  
I know in some areas there are a number of "BBS" all within direct range of each  
other. (Many are just for the personal use of the owner & a few of his  
friends.)  
All these BBS seem to want ALL the bulletins and so BBS & Networks waste a lot  
of time/ resources fwding to these "personalized" BBS.  
If the bulletins to said BBS were transmitted UI then any station (including  
BBS) within  
range could pick them up. If a club wanted to setup a "BBS" they would just  
have to  
run the receiving software. The main Sysop would then not have to be editing  
config  
or fwd files all the time.

73 - Ron velaic

--

Barry Buelow      WA0RJT      Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net      wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

## 129. [BBSSIG:1169] Re: BID's (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 13:08:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111808.NAA02658@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BID's

On Jul 11, 8:33am, Bill Vodall wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1162] BID's  
> Is there any difference between all capital BID's and lower case BID's?

> Are they interchangeable?

BIDs are upper case only.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

--

Barry Buelow              WA0RJT              Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net              wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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### 130. [BBSSIG:1170] Re: [NETSIG:1465] Re: Bulletins vs Mail (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 13:08:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507111808.NAA02670@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: [NETSIG:1465] Re: Bulletins vs Mail

(Crosspost to both groups is intentional)

On Jul 11, 9:25am, Jeffrey Austen wrote:

> (I'm referring to the inter-city links here. Except in large cities, there  
> is no real justification for multiple BBSs and BBS frequencies.)

I think we need to be a bit careful in our thinking ... this is a hobby we are talking about, and the only "justification" someone needs is that they think it would be (useful, fun, interesting, a service to others, educational, etc.). i.e. if someone wants to run a bbs, they will run a bbs.

We handle that in a fairly simple manner in the Portland metro network: we just say "Welcome to the network.", feed the new system all the bulletins (over the 9600 baud metro backbone), and invite the sysop to next months coordinating meeting. Then we all discuss how to best make use of the new network resource. Those systems that end up being "not useful to the general user community" tend to wither away pretty quickly due to lack of user support. Yes, this means that BBS systems "pop up" and "go away" from time to time, but with over a dozen of them on air (metro area about 1 mil population) there are always plenty available.

The key statement above was "... over the 9600 baud metro backbone". It's the same backbone that user traffic uses to get to the bbs systems ... Of course users access the 9600 baud network directly as do the bbs systems. There are quite a large number of 1200 baud ports as well, but EVERY 1200 baud port is on a switch which connects it to the 9600 baud backbone. Our next project is to add a 56k or 64k backbone to the metro network. Once that is in place, the 9600 baud links will be also tied at 56k, and the high-data-rate services will use direct 56k links. As a few users are starting to point out "9600 is S0000 SLO000W, we need to fix the network."

As I've tried to point out before, there is exactly ONE key thing we did that made this all happen. That key thing is the attitude of the network and network services builders: "You want to try it, try it. You want to put it on air, put it on air. You want that new service, get it running. We support everything and anything you want to do, any time, for any reason. More is always better than less."

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

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Barry Buelow                WA0RJT                Packet BBS in Cedar Rapids, IA  
barry@ia.net                wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

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### 131. [BBSSIG:1175] Re: Internet and LL forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 11 Jul 1995 17:16:16 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507112216.RAA06597@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Internet and LL forwarding

>After trying to understand all the pros and cons of internet, worm holes,  
>hf, v/uhf, and microwave networking, I still seem to find myself looking at  
>these points that appear the most logical to me:  
>

>1. Internet/worm holes networks are currently and in the foreseeable future,  
>the only practical way to span areas with no network interest or population.

That depends on what you consider to be practical..

If you are trying to compete with commercial info pumpers, then the telephone is your best bet. It's the only way to go. That's what they use, and there's good reason for it.

If you are trying to build a Ham Radio RF network, that leaves the telephone services out of the picture ( Not ham radio, sorry! ), leaving you with RF systems to get your data moved over the long stretches. That's what hams use, every day. That's what they'll still use in the future, too, if there's still hams.

Often when there's no existing interest in packet radio in a rural area, that intrest is SPARKED when packet networkers place a node in thier vicinity, and all of a sudden they have ACCESS to a Ham Radio Network, seperate and unique to Hams.. The networkers were just trying to get past a "dead spot", but from what I can tell they invariably end up accomplishing much more in the long run. After a while, the "dead spot" has enough packet ops to support a BBS, and then the store 'n forward net has gained a new cell, inflicting those poor rural hams with tons of bulletins on many subjects, an all-ham worldwide digital messaging service, and the ability to stand up on thier hind legs and be PROUD of being HAMS while using it. THAT is how the network gets built, and how packet radio has earned such widespread popularity. Anywhere it goes, hams can't seem to help getting interested in it and we end up with more packet ops, more hams.

I got excited there.. Sorry, I forgot.. What was the benifit to ham radio when we use landlines to " span areas with no network interest or population" ??

Personally, I'm unsure if it's a good idea in the long run to use landlines even over those large stretches of desert or mountains we have here 'n there. I understand the temptation, but still doubt the wisdom of it and would look long and hard at my options before settling for a landline hookup. Some times the hard way is best.

Internet is just fine, and I communicate with it most days. I do the same with packet radio, and see no reason why one should aspire to be a poor copy of the other.

Packet radio is unique, and presents fun and challenges of it's own. A lot of guys have scratched thier heads and pumped out rivers of sweat in the process of building up what we currenntly have. I for one have a fine appreciation of the efforts which have been expended by SYSOPs and NodeOps over the years to create and maintain this worldwide digital RF network which is exclusive to hams. It's different, and that's what I like about it. It gives me a nice warm "Hammy" feeling inside.

Those guys who mworked so hard are heroes, and here comes the Landline devotees saying thier work stinks and we'd all be better off using the telephone. I don't go for that logic at all. It's unworthy of us as hams to accept this logic.

Packet can do a really good job of being itself, warts and all, or it can do a really poor job of attempting to imitate Internet and other landline services.

This is my main objection to TCP/IP.. It imitates Internet at every opportunity, while AX25 BBS's have a very unique "personality" of thier own which has been developed over a period of time by Ham Radio Operators. If you're looking for the heart of ham radio on packet, check into an AX25 BBS, using a NetRom type node and one of nice terminal programs like PAKET. You'll be looking at what HAMS put together and use in it's purest form.

Yes, of course TCP/IP ops are hams too! I just feel that as long as they stick with RF they'll be saddled with that tacky mainframe-like user interface, and that the user interface which has developed on AX25 BBS software is a more direct reflection of the desires and peculiarities of ham radio operators.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: Most of the major changes in \*NOS code over the last five years has resulted from a rush to imitate the AX25 BBS's user interface.

There's good reason for that, and it's reflected in the much wider distribution of AX25 as opposed to TCP/IP stations. Hams like being hams, in general, and you just can't get around it. TCP/IP wasn't invented yesterday, either. It's been around quite a while, but not that many hams have opted to use it. Again, there's good reason for that.

>2. The rf networks can be greatly enhanced by any hi speed connection to >other networks to make up an overall WWARN (World Wide Amateur Radio Network)

My position on this is that throwing your hands up, abandoning RF, and hooking up to a commercial landline communications service can't seriously be taken as an advance for Ham Radio.

Ham radio has a WWARN, but since it ( of course ) uses RF and many hams now feel the need to "compete" with commercial services by using THEM ( Huh?? ) instead of using radios, development of that network has been set back considerably.

Lots of brains which should be available to the hobby are being short-circuited by a quasi-religious adoration of landline technology. It's a crying shame, and that's no joke.

" A mind is a terrible thing", or something like that..

>3. The current WWARN is inadequate to handle much real time traffic and even >has very limited time value traffic message delivery. Delivery times can >exceed one day from my experience.

Yes, you're entirely correct here. Where our views part ways is in what to do about it.

I say hams oughta get off thier cans and innovate, bumping thier heads against limitations until they bust past them. That's how hams advance the hobby, and make a good name for themselves as innovators.

>Directions to solve this seem to me to be:

>

>1. Highest possible speed for local networks hopefully using RF paths almost >exclusively depending on the local support by those interested and willing >to allocate their resources freely and willingly.

That's how it is here, but it's ALL RF in my local area.

>2. Highest possible speed for point to point modes as determined by the >interest of individuals and groups. These PtP methods can include RF if >those who support such a system can develop and keep operational. I believe >minimum speed would have to be 1-10 MBps for significant data handling.

Significant compared to what? If you look back five or ten years, you'll be amazed at what hams have been able to do with RF. The constant whining about the amount of traffic moved by a typical AX25 BBS kinda indicates to ME that the system we have is OBVIOUSLY moving a lot of stuff, every day, and must cover a significant chunk of the planet! A lot more than it did five, or ten years back. I'd like to see that growth continue, and continue to be the growth of Ham Radio instead of some series of commercial outfits.

If you only consider 1-10 MBps to be significant and are interested in cross-planet communications, why are you bothering with packet radio at this time?

I've got a news flash for everybody.. The commercial landline networks will

ALWAYS be "significantly" faster than using RF. If the disparity between the data rates available using radio and telephones really bothers you THAT MUCH, you're expending your energies on the wrong hobby. Folks who talk about using LandLines "until RF technology catches up" are talking through thier hats, and know it. This leads me to question thier motives.

>3. Save the slowspeed HF RF systems such as CLOVER II and perhaps the coming >PACTOR II for the inevitable disasters that will terminate the hi speed >systems, whether amateur or non-amateur. I know from studying the actual >developments at wide area disasters that the amateur will often fail first >(repeaters, digis, etc.) since they are not hardened sites with emergency >power, and a cadre of technicians to keep them operational. I cannot stress >this enough. I know some don't want to hear this but it seems to be proven >that the wirelines and now even cellular phones keep operating. If someone >has information to the contrary I sure want to hear it.

Read QST, or most any ham radio publication. Your observations might sound good to your boss at work, but won't impress many hams. Why? They've BEEN THERE, and know better.

Please name the wide area disaster where hams did nothing to assist by providing emergency communications to cover for overloaded or downed landline links. I'm sure the hams in that area would be most happy to hear of thier efforts being disparaged by a person who advocates the widespread replacement of RF communication links with commercial landline services for the HAM RADIO net.

I'd avoid an "eyeball QSO" with those guys after that, though... :-)

>4. We went through this same thing in cw/voice traffic handling when packet >came along. Those of us who saw what the potential of this new mode would >be, tried to elicit support of the net organizations. I was a delegate at >the time in my state of Wisconsin. There was NO support. Tremendous >opposition and poo pooing of this packet stuff. I am sure you know what >happened to much of traffic handling. Then the Alinks came along and >further changed history.

Do I understand you correctly? Are you seriously putting forward the use of commercial landline services as an ADVANCEMENT to ham radio, and then saying that only the technically disadvantaged see it otherwise? Do you seriously compare the rush to use commercial services for ham communications with the advent of packet radio as an advancement of the hobby?

That's what I got out of it, so straighten me out if I got it wrong, please.

I keep hearing guys say that kind of obviously bogus stuff, and wonder what they're really interested in doing.. Are thier employers by any chance wanting a piece of spectrum which hams currently have possession of, or something like that? I'm not making an accusation; Just trying to understand what motivates guys who work for large commercial outfits and government agencies ( who could use some more spectrum ) to strongly advocate having hams develop a dependence on landline technology for thier communications, instead of radios...

It sounds fishy to me, but I haven't looked into it from that angle so I won't make any actual accusations.. Yet.

On the other hand, if I do get evidence of this being the case, I can guarantee that hams will be hearing about it AROUND THE WORLD. I'll see to that, if nobody else does. The packet network IS still functional, at this point.

Does that sound like a threat? It shouldn't, unless the shoe fits. If I'm wrong, then of course no-one has anything to worry about, and we'll all have a good laugh over it.

Again, I'm not saying this IS the case, but on the other hand I'm sure going to look into it, and other hams should be looking into it as well.

>5. Realistically in emergency situations, the main local mode that will be >used is tactical voice, primarily simplex and if operational or made >operational, with emergency replacements, repeater operation (witness OK >bombing to bring in a repeater to fill in the gaps in downtown OKC). Some >packet can be used depending on the disaster to transmit some kinds of info, >like lists of supplies needed, that sort of thing. For outside the affected >area, again voice is often used, and data can be used for H&W messages. >Almost nothing is allowed into the area until local phone service can be >restored since the messages would be undeliverable. That is why HF digital >stuff needs to be ubiquitously located everywhere because you never know





I'm trying to check the email about 3 times per day.  
0800, 1200, 2000 US Central time.

There have been a couple of posts during each of those sessions the last few days. I'm trying to keep the msgs flowing without too much delay.

73 Barry

--

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### 133. [BBSSIG:1178] Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 12 Jul 1995 08:02:05 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507121302.IAA16343@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet

Hank replied to my message...

> >  
> > As for IP on AX25; in addition to allowing direct connectivity to other  
> > computers (and the world of the Internet) it greatly increases the  
> > robustness of message passing at the price of efficiency. Using the  
>  
> Can you explain the "... increases the robustness ..." statement?

IP, as implemented by ?NOS will not time out and give up like standard AX25 packet. If the circuit gets busy or goes away for a while it will back off and (politely) keep trying. A long message being sent will not time out and have to be restarted. NOS gives fairly complete control of not only the number of retries but the initial time for a retry, the maximum time for a retry and the method of "learning" the retry rate. On a marginal path where an AX25 connection could not be maintained - SMTP mail on IP will eventually get the message through.

> > To say that IP and the Internet connection is the death of packet radio  
> > is no different than the AM'ers saying SSB will ruin Amateur Radio. Or that  
> we  
> > shouldn't ever use commercial rigs and all equipment should be home  
> > built. It's a wonderful "off-the-shelf" resource. We need to make the  
> > best use of it while continuing to develop and expand in our specialty area  
> > of RF connections.  
>  
> This is a patently silly argument: AM and SSB are both RADIO modes.  
> The equivalent argument must compare RADIO vs. LL transport.

I disagree. The all are modes of communications. The examples are of lesser versus greater capabilities. I do not believe that because an individual is interested in communication technology and implementation that being a Radio Amateur they are somehow obligated to only use RF paths. I personally get a real kick out of tying the two together. The (my) ultimate goal would be to see the best usage of both sides and then start pushing the technology for more.

Where my examples fail in comparison to the RF/LL discussion is that AM or homebuilt rigs lack the potential to reasonably compete or even surpass the capabilities of the "better" mode as RF digital communications does.

> > Let the Internet handle some of the traffic and help tie our local networks  
> > together. We need to move from the technology of the 70's (AX25 store and  
>  
> Sure, and using phone patches (i.e. LL links) to link voice repeaters  
> does the same, and has the save effect; reduction in urgency of the  
> construction on long haul RADIO links.

In some cases you are absolutely right and I wholeheartedly agree. But what about those cases where it is, for all practical purposes, impossible? I was able to talk to some Seattle amateurs via a landline linked repeater from Billings Montana early one morning. While not impossible, the network required to do the same by a pure RF amateur system would be very difficult and probably beyond the resources of the ham population in the area. Should we write off the possibility of doing something because

it's outside the "RF" arena in hopes that someday it "might" be done otherwise? I'm getting too old to wait for many some-days...

> > It may well be that access to the Internet and its wonders is what prompts  
> > folks to fix the flaws in our existing networks. It might be the incentive  
> > that's needed to properly route the NetRom networks, to separate the  
> > node-to-node communications from the users, to finally recognize and  
> > eliminate the zillions of hidden transmitters that turn a near useful  
> > 1200 baud system (100 cps) into a 1-5 cps slow and unreliable exercise  
> > in frustration.  
>  
> Sounds like you need to fix your network!

Absolutely. But how? We've built an UHF backbone that links the population areas of the state. Some of the paths are marginal. Most sites have multiple hidden transmitters. The key site has 4 hidden transmitters hitting it. The folks involved have invested time and energy getting it to this point. It's at the limit of the resources available. Not only that, but some of the folks involved don't really understand the problems. Nor is it important to them. Things are working, the BBS traffic is flowing (mostly) and they can leave notes on the PBBS in their pals TNC's so why improve it. Bringing the system up to a 1200 baud, full duplex, hidden transmitter free network with performance in the 50-100 cps range is currently out of the question. Eliminating the few neat things we can do now, like using the Calgary link to NetRom to Moscow or Anchorage or even Tampa is not going to bring new life into the system. We need easy point and click GUI interfaces, user programmable games and applications, data retrieval of beer cooler temperatures. When the users can do here what they can do on the Internet - and more... Then they'll come and bring the resources to fix the network. Being able to use a 100 MHz Pentium with 16 Mbytes ram and a gig of disk space to run a dumb terminal program to read a few short messages that are weeks old isn't going to do it.

> But, as you point out above, why bother since you can unload  
> that network by using the telephone instead. I can do exactly

There are times when using the telephone to supplement a HF schedule would be a good thing. Given the choice of having only a telephone or HF rig - which would most folks choose? It would be preferable to have access to QRM free, 5x9 landline signals available at any time for a reasonable price.

(For the record - I'd probably choose a HF rig... :-)

> ... Hank

The only point that I disagree with is saying that we should not have any LL connections and be exclusively on RF. There are many instances where it (the LL) is the only practical path.

I concur with the thought that the availability of easy (fast, cheap, reliable) land line connections that are currently replacing the mess on HF packet will slow down the development of better HF modes and that's a problem. I'll be doing what I can here to squeeze a little more out of the RF side. But that's not going to keep me from using and enjoying the Internet links or from maintaining the technology to forward messages via UUCP mail.

> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations

--

Bill

Reply-To:            vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

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### 134. [BBSSIG:1179] Re: Internet and LL forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 12 Jul 1995 08:03:26 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507121303.IAA16365@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: gwyn@paccomm.com (Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL)  
Subject: Re: Internet and LL forwarding

Now I begin to understand why most Americans claim to be religious, yet far fewer attend church regularly - they practice religion on the internet.

Like the Virgin Birth or infallability of the Pope etc., some things are either believed or not. No amount of discussion will change anyone's mind.

Just agree to disagree and the rest of us can have some peace.

-----  
Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL      gwyn@paccomm.com      W1BEL@amsat.org

+ (813) 874-2980      Fax: + (813) 872-8696      BBS: + (813) 874-3078 (V.34)

PacComm Packet Radio Systems, Inc, 4413 N. Hesperides St, Tampa, FL 33614-7618

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### 135. Wrong network model

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 12 Jul 1995 08:16:40 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507121316.IAA16439@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet

... much deleted

>

> Absolutely. But how? We've built an UHF backbone that links the population  
> areas of the state. Some of the paths are marginal. Most sites have multiple  
> hidden transmitters. The key site has 4 hidden transmitters hitting it. The  
> folks involved have invested time and energy getting it to this point. It's  
> at the limit of the resources available. Not only that, but some of the  
> folks involved don't really understand the problems. Nor is it important to  
> them. Things are working, the BBS traffic is flowing (mostly) and they

>

Bill, it looks like you just built a big simplex scheme. I fully understand the difficulties of organizing the resources and financing, but you built the wrong kind of network. The cost of doing it right is several times more than what you have invested now, but that's the price of a system with different bands and (hopefully) no hidden tx.

I'm not trying to get you to go away, but you really ought to talk to some of the folks on NETSIG and see what experiences they may be able to draw on. You aren't the first, or the last, to be in this situation. I wouldn't give up. Try converting a part of the network to a more robust system, this might be achieved by as little as a couple of frequency changes and a few more nodes. This could DEMONSTRATE the improvements and people would be more willing to provide support.

73 Barry

---

### 136. [BBSSIG:1184] Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 12 Jul 1995 17:26:00 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507122226.RAA21582@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet

On Jul 12, 8:13am, Bill Vodall wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1180] Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet  
> Hank replied to my message...

> I disagree. The all are modes of communications. The examples are of  
> lesser versus greater capabilities. I do not believe that because an  
> individual is interested in communication technology and implementation that  
> being a Radio Amateur they are somehow obligated to only use RF paths. I  
> personally get a real kick out of tying the two together. The (my) ultimate

> goal would be to see the best usage of both sides and then start pushing the  
> technology for more.

I will toss this out one more time, and then drop it.

The hobby we are discussing here is ham radio. Specifically the construction and operation of ham radio networks and the applications that use them.

We are not talking about commercial networking as a hobby, that discussion occurs in other places. When we digress from our stated topic, we waste everyone's time. I hope that the moderators will help to get this discussion back on topic: ham radio networking.

Let us drop the discussion about LL networking, book publishing, magazine publishing, making telephone calls, etc. etc. and get back to discussing how to build and use radio networks.

... Hank

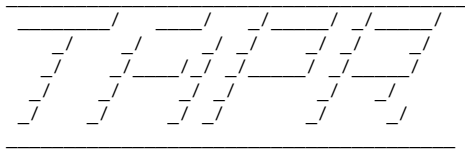
--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

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## 137. reminder

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 12 Jul 1995 17:29:05 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507122229.RAA21641@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain



Welcome to the TAPR BBS Sysops' Special Interest Group Mailing List!

The BBSSIG is considering these issues

- o hierarchical addressing
- o education of users to get the most from the local bulletin boards
- o education of sysops to get the most from their software
- o establishing a library of case studies so we're all not constantly  
  'reinventing the wheel' when we set up or upgrade a BBS

---

## 138. [BBSSIG:1188] Re: reminder (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 12 Jul 1995 22:16:47 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507130316.WAA25438@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: reminder

>  
>The BBSSIG is considering these issues  
>-----  
>  o hierarchical addressing  
>  o education of users to get the most from the local bulletin boards  
>  o education of sysops to get the most from their software  
>  o establishing a library of case studies so we're all not constantly  
>    'reinventing the wheel' when we set up or upgrade a BBS  
>  
>

You sure could have fooled me! I don't believe I've heard much of ANYTHING on the topics listed there, but then again I haven't been on the BBSSIG that long.

What's the drill? Is the list pretty much a cosmetic kind of thing, or are

these seriously the MAIN or ONLY topics which oughta be discussed?

Of the listed topics, how many of them have been seriously pursued on the SIG?

Is it time for a NEW LIST?

Are there some we don't see much about because they've pretty well already been handled? If so, what was the outcome?

> o hierarchical addressing

If the BBSSIG has covered this topic previously and has recommendations, I'd like to know so I can comply. I can't think of a "higher authority" on this issue than this SIG.

This points out a problem which hasn't been addressed. When a new guy shows up on the SIG, there should be some sort of standard "This is what we are working on, and this is what we have done so far in each area, and this is how to take advantage of our progress so far" blurb which Barry can send the fellow, so he can "get with the program", if that's what's expected.

> o education of users to get the most from the local bulletin boards  
> o education of sysops to get the most from their software  
> o establishing a library of case studies so we're all not constantly  
> 'reinventing the wheel' when we set up or upgrade a BBS

These topics LOOK interesting, but have they seen much action? What has the SIG accomplished in relation to those issues? How much of the SIG's time actually is spent on these?

Where's the library of case studies? I'm not disparaging the idea, I'm asking "Where's the BEEF?" It sounds like a slick idea to me, and I would like to both contribute to such a library and go digging around in it.

I would imagine that Barry had something in mind by placing the list on the SIG as a reminder. Does Barry seriously expect everybody to drop what thier doing and pursue these topics, or what?

While I'm asking questions, I'll throw this one in..

This is the BBSSIG, right? OK, what's a BBS? Are we talking about AX25 BBS programs like W0RLI, AA4RE, F6FBB, MSYS, ect?

Are TCP/IP programs like JNOS "BBS" programs, or something else which would be better served on a seperate SIG? When I look at JNOS, I see all the components needed to use it as a BBS, but have heard devotees of TCP/IP say many times that store 'n forward message-passing is NOT what TCP/IP is all about.

Is \*NOS's BBS capability more a matter of making "cross network" communication possible and not considered to be one of TCP/IP's primary functions? If so, are TCP/IP topics really appropriate on the BBSSIG, when they go beyond simple issues of compatability?

Finally: My observations on the subject of RF/Landline are well known. Folks who have read my diatribes on this subject may have gathered the impression that I believe Internet and Hams don't mix well.

My participation in this SIG oughta give everybody a clue to the contrary.. Actually, I believe that the NETSIG and BBSSIG are currently the BEST way in which hams have utilized Internet. The FTP sites and home pages run a close second.

I'm enthusiastic about these because they are mature, responsible ways to utilize this resource. Internet's throughput problems are not added to by tons of messages going back 'n forth, and there's no downside for Ham Radio in these applications either.

That's just one of those IMHO deals though...

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                         Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

If the facts do not conform to the theory, they must be disposed of.

---

### 139. [BBSSIG:1189] Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 12 Jul 1995 22:19:32 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <199507130319.WAA25488@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: schiers@ibm.net (hasan schiers)

Subject: Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet

Bill sez:

>> I do not believe that because an  
>> individual is interested in communication technology and implementation that  
>> being a Radio Amateur they are somehow obligated to only use RF paths. I  
>> personally get a real kick out of tying the two together.

Hank sez:

>

>The hobby we are discussing here is ham radio. Specifically the construction  
>and operation of ham radio networks and the applications that use them.

hasan sez:

I fail to see how the marriage of the two for a purpose that serves the  
efficient moving of traffic is off topic here. Further, whether or not a  
given line of discussion is off topic is up to the moderator. The moderator  
may also declare a thread "dead" because it has been beaten to death.  
(we must be getting close). So Barry, you decide, is the marriage off  
topic here or not. Should the thread be ended?

robert "hasan" schiers

Ham Radio Packet: n0an@n0an.ia.usa.noam

CIS: 74245,1652

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#### 140. Re: [BBSSIG:1191] Re: NOS, Packet and the Internet

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>

Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 08:12:03 -0500 (CDT)

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <199507131312.IAA02822@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

>

> hasan sez:

>

> I fail to see how the marriage of the two for a purpose that serves the  
> efficient moving of traffic is off topic here. Further, whether or not a  
> given line of discussion is off topic is up to the moderator. The moderator  
> may also declare a thread "dead" because it has been beaten to death.  
> (we must be getting close). So Barry, you decide, is the marriage off  
> topic here or not. Should the thread be ended?

>

> robert "hasan" schiers

> Ham Radio Packet: n0an@n0an.ia.usa.noam

> CIS: 74245,1652

>

>

>

I declare the thread dead. Combatants are to return to their respective  
corners and pour salt in the open wounds.

Folks, try to remember the 6 characters you type at the beginning of  
each msg "BBSSIG".

Barry

---

#### 141. [BBSSIG:1193] Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>

Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 14:17:50 -0500 (CDT)

To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <199507131917.0AA06756@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>

Subject: Improved Bulletin Control

As promised I have played with the F6FBB version 5.15 software  
and learned both good and bad things. First I looked for some way to  
control what my users put on the BBS. I could not find a way to do this!

The REJET.SYS file which became REJECT.SYS in later versions has provisions for deleting messages that COME TO MY BBS, and to some extent control what the user can do. When you display rejet.sys on an editor it has some explanation on what means what.

I first decided to delete all Bulletins that are TO: ALL. This meant that even messages from other bbs will be deleted if they were TO: ALL. This is not what I want but here is what happened.

First nothing happend. I put the line in rejet.sys and nothing happened. Then 2 days later I found in init.srv a setting that said "load reject high?" So I selected that, even though I was using no high memory, and then it worked.

When I tried to send "sb all@usa" my bbs said "message cancelled" and I was back to the prompt. That is good! The bad part is that it kills ALL those messages coming in...

So then I tried to delete only from my bbs. This seemed possible because it said I can limit the deletions to just 1 @BBS. So I put my call in that spot but it didn't work. It didn't do anything to my users any more.

Well back to the drawing board. If anyone has a good idea please send it along.

73, karl k5di

---

## 142. Re: [BBSSIG:1194] Improved Bulletin Control

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 14:40:07 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507131940.OAA07064@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl wrote:

>  
> As promised I have played with the F6FBB version 5.15 software  
>  
>  
>  
Karl, what version of 5.15? Isn't there .a .b .c ?

-----

Also regarding an earlier question about FBB compression, there apparently was a change to the compression scheme in version (c). Is it backward compatible?

Barry

---

## 143. [BBSSIG:1196] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 18:03:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507132303.SAA09107@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Also regarding an earlier question about FBB compression, there apparently  
> was a change to the compression scheme in version (c). Is it backward  
> compatible?

As I understand it, there is no change to the compression scheme itself. The FBB protocol was changed so that if a message was only partially received, due to the connection dropping during forwarding, FBB could start sending that message from where it left off instead of having to send the whole thing again. This protocol change was only made to the compressed forwarding part of the protocol, which is why it might appear that the compression itself was changed.

The protocol changes are backward compatible. The new scheme sends B1 in the SID whereas the old one is just B. If either end sends only a B in its SID then the new protocol isn't used and a partially received message is discarded at the receiving end and retransmitted in its entirety from the other end.



#### 144. [BBSSIG:1197] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 18:04:58 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507132304.SAA09113@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Karl wrote:  
> >  
> > As promised I have played with the F6FBB version 5.15 software  
> >  
> >  
> Karl, what version of 5.15? Isn't there .a .b .c ?  
>

Yes there are Barry. As I said in a message last week, I run version 5.15C and forward well to version 5.15 and 5.15B. So I am certain IF version 5.15C uses another compression scheme it's backward compatable and it works with JNOS version 1.10K.

> -----  
>  
> ALSO regarding an earlier question about FBB compression, there apparently  
> was a change to the compression scheme in version (c). Is it backward  
> compatible?  
>

see above.

> Barry  
>  
>  
>  
>  
73, karl k5di

---

#### 145. [BBSSIG:1198] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 18:05:33 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507132305.SAA09120@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: n9lnq@prairienet.org (James T. Summers)  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

>  
> As promised I have played with the F6FBB version 5.15 software  
>and learned both good and bad things. First I looked for some way to  
>control what my users put on the BBS. I could not find a way to do this!  
>  
> The REJET.SYS file which became REJECT.SYS in later versions has  
>provisions for deleting messages that COME TO MY BBS, and to some extent  
>control what the user can do. When you display rejet.sys on an editor it  
>has some explanation on what means what.  
>  
> I first decided to delete all Bulletins that are TO: ALL. This  
>meant that even messages from other bbs will be deleted if they were TO:  
>ALL. This is not what I want but here is what happened.  
>  
> First nothing happend. I put the line in rejet.sys and nothing  
>happened. Then 2 days later I found in init.srv a setting that said "load  
>reject high?" So I selected that, even though I was using no high memory,  
>and then it worked.  
>  
> When I tried to send "sb all@usa" my bbs said "message cancelled"  
>and I was back to the prompt. That is good! The bad part is that it kills

>ALL those messages coming in...

>

> So then I tried to delete only from my bbs. This seemed possible

>because it said I can limit the deletions to just 1 @BBS. So I put my

>call in that spot but it didn't work. It didn't do anything to my users

>any more.

>

> Well back to the drawing board. If anyone has a good idea please

>send it along.

>

>73, karl k5di

>

>

>

>

>

Karl, there is a way to hold all locally entered bulls in FBB. I have been using the method for the last 3 years to hold all locally entered bulls until I can check them out. Don't remember the specifics off the top of my head but can look it up if needed.

73 de Jim N9LNQ

--

-----

|   |                              |   |                               |   |
|---|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| * | Jim Summers                  | - | n9lnq@prairienet.org          | * |
| * | Sysop N9LNQ Packet Radio BBS | - | n9lnq@n9lnq.#ecil.il.usa.moam | * |
| * |                              |   |                               | * |

## 146. BBS Functions ?

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
 Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 18:18:19 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)  
 Message-ID: <199507132318.SAA24966@beall.tenet.edu>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Someone asked me the other day: If I had to design a BBS system from scratch what would it do?

Well - I answered the question, but it got me to thinking of asking folks on here. What would the perfect BBS system do ? Function wise.

Greg

## 147. [BBSSIG:1203] Bulletin CNTRL wid FBB (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 21:49:04 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199507140249.VAA09848@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
 Subject: Bulletin CNTRL wid FBB

I've been following Karl's efforts to set up bulletin control on FBB software, and thought I'd suggest this:

I have in my REJECT.SYS the following line:

L B \* \* \* \* 0

This causes ALL locally generated bulletins to go on "hold", to be reviewed by the SYSOP.

Personally, I just make sure they're legal. But if you wanted to change @USA to @(state) on a bull-by-bull basis there would be nothing to stop you. Just be sure to announce your policy, so everybody will know what to expect and not be surprised. You may find that SOME of the locally generated bulls really SHOULD be distributed @USA.

This is not too elegant, and I'm keeping my fingers crossed that Karl will keep tinkering around and find something better.

By the way, I've come to the conclusion that tips like this should be accompanied by a description of the software/hardware they work with, so here's my info:

F6FBB 515c

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                 Internet :    n5pvl@texoma.com

Good judgement comes from experience.  
Experience comes from bad judgement.

---

## 148. [BBSSIG:1204] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 21:50:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507140250.VAA09857@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

>Karl wrote:  
>>  
>>        As promised I have played with the F6FBB version 5.15 software  
>>  
>>  
>>  
>Karl, what version of 5.15? Isn't there .a .b .c ?  
>  
>-----  
>  
>Also regarding an earlier question about FBB compression, there apparently  
>was a change to the compression scheme in version (c). Is it backward  
>compatible?  
>  
>Barry

I think it's just FBB 515, 515b, and 515c

Plain old 515 is very robust, and works best in slower/smaller machines, in  
DesqView windows, OS/2 VDM's, and so on..

515b is buggy, and generally avoided as far as I know.

515c has extra bells 'n whistles, is almost as robust as 515, but is slower  
and requires more RAM in order to work well ( with all features enabled. )

I have run 515 and 515c side-by-side ( It takes a modified serv.exe on one  
or the other, for two FBB's with the same callsign to forward wid each other  
) and can verify that 515c's compressed forwarding is backwards compatable.

You miss out on some of those bells 'n whistles if you use 515, and this  
also holds true for the compressed forwarding features, but it WILL work  
with the newer version 515c.

In general, if you want to run FBB, you're better off with 515c unless your  
computer is pretty slow and limited on memory. In that case, good old 515 is  
probably the best choice.

If Karl can run 515c, he'll find that there are more options for holding and  
rejecting messages than 515 has, and this may help him in what he's trying  
to accomplish.

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                 Internet :    n5pvl@texoma.com

Good judgement comes from experience.  
Experience comes from bad judgement.

---

## 149. Re: [BBSSIG:1202] BBS Functions ?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 13 Jul 1995 22:05:00 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507140305.WAA10001@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Greg,

One of the functions that deserves some investigation would be  
different forwarding algorithms. I hesitate to describe bulletin  
flooding as a "problem", but it has an interesting characteristic.

The local or regional network is also a small portion of the national network. The flexibility of this approach also limits the choices available in modifying the forwarding algorithm.

Consider for a moment that the bltn distribution scheme was not based on flooding, it might be hierarchical. Don't ask how. Say that your local BBS received bltns from a regional BBS.

In this scheme, there could be something different for determining the bltn forwarding algorithm. For example, if the local BBS kept track of which bltns were read, it could influence the order in which bltns are received from the regional BBS. For purposes of discussion, the local BBS may send a list of priorities or it could signal the regional BBS. Currently the local BBS send OK/NO for each bltn. Maybe it could send OK/LATER/NO. The regional would keep trying with the LATER category until they get delivered or die of old age.

Statistics of user habits would be based on the T0 or @BBS, but a newsgroup kind of system would be more interesting.

Note that this kind of algorithm would not prohibit any bltn flow, it would just push some down the priority list. If no one in Iowa read the FIRE bltns, they MIGHT show up, if the channels could support the load. IF not, ...

73 Barry

---

## 150. [BBSSIG:1208] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 08:44:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141344.IAA13980@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>Someone asked me the other day: If I had to design a BBS system from scratch  
>what would it do?

>

>Well - I answered the question, but it got me to thinking of asking folks on  
>here. What would the perfect BBS system do ? Function wise.

>

>Greg

>

>

I'd like to see a system of "plug-in" modules, so the SYSOP could "roll his own" system, only incorporating the functions needed at his station, and avoiding functions which are not needed or wanted.

I'm not much of a programmer, so bear with me, please...

I'd start off with a standardized "main program" which didn't do much except allow you to "plug in" hardware support modules and Network Software modules on one "end", and applications on the other. Keep this part pretty well standardized, but let the sky be the limit on the plug-ins. If you have a bigger/faster computer, you can "plug in" more applications at one time. I would also want to be able to "route" specific applications to specific hardware/network, and be able to "mix 'n match" them as desired.

It would give a connectee a menu of applications available, and after leaving one APP, he gets the menu again, which includes "BYE". He can go on to another APP, another network, another frequency, or disconnect. An "all in one" deal.

Applications might include: BBS, DX cluster, TCP/IP, APLINK, Conference Bridge, Personal Terminal, Network monitor and stats, Local PMS, Callbook, ect.. With the ability to have endless "flavors" of each of these, and easier upgrades since they all work with a standard main module. This system would make inventing, testing, and implementing new applications MUCH easier and faster.

In other words, all the applications we currently use separate programs for, being set up as "plug ins" to a basic system which can accept any or all of these, without having to be loaded down with sections of code it doesn't need.

On the other "end", ( Hardware/network ) you could have modules to make the program "talk to" : TNC2, AEA TNC, KANTRONICS TNC, BPQ, DRSI, HAPN,

Ethernet cards, -- You name it. With a standard interface, manufacturers or enthusiasts could write modules for any hardware they could dream up, and ANYBODY could immediately use them, without having to give up what they already have.

Same goes for Net-ware.. Modules for NetROM, TexNet, ROSE, TCP/IP, or what have you. If something new comes out, why just plug it in and try it out!

I realize that doing this is much more complicated than it may sound to an indifferent programmer like myself, but anyway; This is what I'd like to see most.

A nice, flexible system which would do as little or as much as you wanted it to, without having to "re-invent the wheel" every time a new application, network, or bit of hardware was dreamed up.

PROGRAMMERS: Is this possible at all? Is it worth the effort and organization it would take to make it fly? Doesn't that "Main module" sound like a real booger to develop and write?

Oh, and one more thing: It will need to be easy to set up and use, with no need to go looking for a hacker to massage your code into functionality. Appliance operators like myself oughta be able to get a basic system "flying" in short order, with little or no "elmering" required. This means that the "main module" will have to be pretty bullet-proof, easy to use, and have EXCELLENT documentation, since the documentation on the "plug ins" would tend to vary quite a bit.

Most likely, it would be best to have "main modules" for DOS, Windoze, OS/2, LINUX, you name it. If nothing else, have one for DOS which would include it's own multitasker.

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                         Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

Good judgement comes from experience.  
Experience comes from bad judgement.

---

## 151. [BBSSIG:1209] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 08:46:02 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141346.IAA13996@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dean R Madsen <dmadsen@iastate.edu>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

>I think it's just FBB 515, 515b, and 515c

I believe that the compression scheme is backwards compatible with even earlier versions: FBB 5.15's compression scheme was compatible with that of FBB 5.14d, and 5.15(plain) was not said to have any change in the compressed forwarding scheme to my recollection.

The new encoding scheme has to have at least some sort of checksum added as I remember immediately after I upgraded to 5.15b, FBB would give an error message and then recompress a message that had been previously compressed by the older FBB 5.15.

>

>Plain old 515 is very robust, and works best in slower/smaller machines, in >DesqView windows, OS/2 VDM's, and so on..

>From my experiance, 5.15b/c uses about 40k LESS memory than 5.15.

>

>515b is buggy, and generally avoided as far as I know.

Agreed.

>

>515c has extra bells 'n whistles, is almost as robust as 515, but is slower >and requires more RAM in order to work well ( with all features enabled. ) >

5.15c is definately slower than 5.15 (WP operations for example).  
Again, with versions above 5.15, you have 40K more RAM available

according to the OK: memory info. It could very well be less efficient with XMS/EMS RAM than 5.15, but I have not noticed such an occurrence.

>In general, if you want to run FBB, you're better off with 515c unless your  
>computer is pretty slow and limited on memory. In that case, good old 515 is  
>probably the best choice.  
>

Again, for limited memory systems (ie: XT's or other computers with 512K or 640K limits) I recommend 5.15c.

73,  
Dean - KE0W0

---

## 152. [BBSSIG:1210] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 08:48:10 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141348.IAA14025@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dave Wolf <wo5h>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

FBB 515c has plenty to keep both sysop and user busy for a long time. 4RE (4.13beta) has a great suite of sysop and file-creating tools that I sorely miss in FBB. Perhaps some of these functions are there, but their presence isn't self-evident. I've recently switched from a two-machine operation (4RE user, FBB forwarding) to one-machine FBB-only and miss 4RE. If only it had FBB-compatible forwarding. (Hank has made it real clear that a snowball has a better chance of survival in Texas... ;-) )

Greg Jones has asked for input from the SIG on what everyone would like in their BBS software. No one has taken the bait, so far, in what I've seen. Maybe something is cooking and we should take advantage of the opportunity! My short wish list includes an ACTION.BB file like 4RE and the forwarding protocol of FBB. How about an integrated node of some flavor (or built-in tighter interface with BPQ) for better channel control. If time permits, a more detailed list will follow. Anyone else want to jump in?

Dave Wolf W05H

---

## 153. [BBSSIG:1214] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 09:07:22 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141407.JAA14259@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, Greg Jones wrote:

> What would the perfect BBS system do ? Function wise.

Sectionalize the message base  
Threading  
Twitting  
Remember where I was when the connection dropped  
Remember my preferences between sessions  
    so I don't have to type in long commands to achieve  
    sectionalization, threading, and twitting  
Compression

Howie

--

Howard Goldstein  
N2WX

hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
<http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/>

---

## 154. Re: [BBSSIG:1215] Re: BBS Functions ?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 09:47:24 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141447.JAA14675@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, Greg Jones wrote:  
>  
> > What would the perfect BBS system do ? Function wise.  
>  
> Sectionalize the message base  
> Threading  
> Twitting  
> Remember where I was when the connection dropped  
> Remember my preferences between sessions  
> so I don't have to type in long commands to achieve  
> sectionalization, threading, and twitting

We've got to have somekind of standardize categories or a hierarchical structure. Newsgroups or something like that.  
Barry

> Compression  
>  
> Howie  
>  
> --  
> Howard Goldstein  
> N2WX  
>  
>  
>

hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
<http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/>

---

### 155. [BBSSIG:1217] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 10:39:55 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141539.KAA15165@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

[snip]

>  
>  
>Note that this kind of algorithm would not prohibit any bltn flow,  
>it would just push some down the priority list. If no one in Iowa  
>read the FIRE bltns, they MIGHT show up, if the channels could  
>support the load. IF not, ...  
>  
>73 Barry  
>

Great idea Barry, I wish FBB had a function to show msgs read like some other software does..oh well cant have everything...mmm well we could ask.

In conjunction with your idea of bulletin fwding priorities I wold be happy with a way to setup a fwd file manually to do just that.  
Something like this (in FBB):  
G 1.@ARRL  
G 2.@AMSAT  
G 3.@LOCAL  
G 4.>ALL  
G 5.@USA  
G 6.@WW

This would cause FBB to fwd ALL of the ARRL bulletins to the given BBS in that session first. In effect sorting (by Priority) the list of bulletins to be fwd'd to a given BBS.

I have also suggested another code to define the T0 field as well as the @ field.  
Putting T0:ALL bulletins at lower Priority might encourage people to use the headers properly.

73 - Ron  
velaic

## 156. [BBSSIG:1218] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 10:40:24 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141540.KAA15173@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Fri, 14 Jul 1995, Dave Wolf wrote:

> control. If time permits, a more detailed list will follow. Anyone else  
> want to jump in?

I have one thing I would like to see in FBB: an 'X' in the SID, and  
with that, support for RLI style "universal" compression.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ *****
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

```

---

## 157. [BBSSIG:1216] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 10:39:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141539.KAA15151@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>Greg,  
>

How about a BBS fwding function that would allow the Sysop to define different  
fwding times for Private Mail vs Bulletins.

All our fwding here is done on a 1 hour cycle, I would like to be able to  
increase the  
thruput of Private Mail say to every 15 mins, if necessary, while still  
doing bulletin  
fwding only once an hour. Of course it would be necessary for the BBS on the  
other  
end to follow this convention and not Reverse fwd bulletins to me, unless it  
was the  
"hourly" session.

What about a fwding protocol code in FBB that would say, during the  
Reverse Poll, FP (instead of FF for example) meaning  
"FWD BACK TO ME -ONLY- PERSONAL MAIL".

73 - Ron  
velaic

---

## 158. DCC Paper Deadline!

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 13:40:11 -0500 (CDT)  
To: tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing), netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing),  
bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing), hfsig@tapr.org (HF SIG mailing),  
dsp-93@tapr.org (DSP-93 Build), aprssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing),  
amsat-bb@amsat.org (AMSAT BB Mail Group)  
Message-ID: <199507141840.NAA28968@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Don't forget -- Friday, July 21st! Deadline for ARRL DCC Article Submissions  
-----

\* Anyone interested in digital communications is invited to submit a paper for  
publication in the Conference Proceedings. Articles are welcome on any  
aspect of digital communications.

\* Presentation at the Conference is not required for publication.

\* Papers are due by July 21, 1995, and should be submitted to



Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 or via the Internet to mweinberg@arrl.org

\* Please contact Maty for detailed format requirements.

\* It is not too late to start writing!

---

If you think you will be late in submitting your paper(s), contact Maty to arrange details.

---

14th Annual ARRL Digital Communications Conference  
September 8-10th, 1995  
Arlington, Texas (minutes from DFW airport)

The ARRL Digital Communications Conference is an international forum for radio amateurs in digital communications, networking, and related technologies to meet, publish their work, and present new ideas and techniques for discussion. Presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results, and practical applications. The Digital Communications Conference is not just for the digital elite, but for digitally-orientated amateurs of all levels of experience.

For further information:

E-Mail: TAPR@TAPR.ORG  
Web : <http://www.tapr.org/tapr>  
ftp : [ftp://ftp.tapr.org/tapr/95\\_DCC\\_Flyer.pdf](ftp://ftp.tapr.org/tapr/95_DCC_Flyer.pdf)

-----  
Tucson Amateur Packet Radio  
8987-309 E Tanque Verde Rd #337 \* Tucson, Az \* 85749-9399 \* 817-383-0000

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## 159. [BBSSIG:1223] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 13:57:55 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141857.NAA16732@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

>>515c has extra bells 'n whistles, is almost as robust as 515, but is slower  
>>and requires more RAM in order to work well ( with all features enabled. )  
>>  
>  
>5.15c is definately slower than 5.15 (WP operations for example).  
>Again, with versions above 5.15, you have 40K more RAM available  
>according to the OK: memory info. It could very well be less efficient  
>with XMS/EMS RAM than 5.15, but I have not noticed such an occurrence.  
>

Thanks for the correction, Dean! I had most likely confused speed with memory requirement.  
I'd still rather run 515 over 515c on slower machines, since it does work a little faster.

73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

It's too bad that whole families have to be torn apart  
by something as simple as wild dogs.

---

## 160. [BBSSIG:1224] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 13:58:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141858.NAA16748@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, Peter Hardie wrote:

```
> On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:
>
> > Also regarding an earlier question about FBB compression, there apparently
> > was a change to the compression scheme in version (c). Is it backward
> > compatible?
>
> As I understand it, there is no change to the compression scheme itself.
> The FBB protocol was changed so that if a message was only partially
> received, due to the connection dropping during forwarding, FBB could start
> sending that message from where it left off instead of having to send the
> whole thing again.
```

That was a change to version 5.15B. It allows finishing a message that was incomplete due to a network problem. It works but is too big a headack to use. I and all my forward partners have it turned off.

```
This protocol change was only made to the compressed
> forwarding part of the protocol, which is why it might appear that the
> compression itself was changed.
>
> The protocol changes are backward compatible. The new scheme sends B1 in
> the SID whereas the old one is just B. If either end sends only a B in
> its SID then the new protocol isn't used and a partially received message
> is discarded at the receiving end and retransmitted in its entirety from the
> other end.
>
> 73 de Pete
> ve5va.qrp@usask.ca
>
>
73 de karl k5di
```

---

## 161. [BBSSIG:1225] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 13:59:16 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141859.NAA16755@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, James T. Summers wrote:

```
> >
> >
> Karl, there is a way to hold all locally entered bulls in FBB. I have
> been using the method for the last 3 years to hold all locally entered
> bulls until I can check them out.
> Don't remember the specifics off the top of my head but can look it up
> if needed.
>
> 73 de Jim N9LNQ
>
>
> --
> -----
> * Jim Summers - n9lnq@prairienet.org *
> * Sysop N9LNQ Packet Radio BBS - n9lnq@n9lnq.#ecil.il.usa.moam *
> * *
>
>
```

Yes Jim I hold ALL local bulletins for review. But that's not what I'm trying to do. I want to tell a user "don't use ALL as a to address. And like that.

---

## 162. [BBSSIG:1227] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 14:00:43 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141900.OAA16770@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Jul 14, 9:18am, Howard Goldstein wrote:

A whole bunch of good stuff ... hope you can expand on it ...

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1215] Re: BBS Functions ?  
> On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, Greg Jones wrote:  
>  
> > What would the perfect BBS system do ? Function wise.  
>  
> Sectionalize the message base

What do you mean by "sectionalize"?  
Can you give some examples?

> Threading

Already available, but only at a simple level of discrimination  
(e.g. the value of the "To:" field)  
What are you looking for?

> Twitting

What's that? The only image that came to mind involved birds ...

> Remember where I was when the connection dropped

To what level of granularity?  
Since the application is normally not aware of exactly how  
many bytes you have received when the connection is lost,  
this may be very difficult to accomplish.

> Remember my preferences between sessions  
> so I don't have to type in long commands to achieve  
> sectionalization, threading, and twitting

Already available.

> Compression

Available for years. Or do you mean compression on the bbs/user link?  
If so the user will need an application to handle the compression.  
What platforms are "must support" beyond DOS and Windows?

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

## 163. [BBSSIG:1229] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJY <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 14:06:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141906.OAA16804@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Jul 14, 11:05am, Ron VE1AIC wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1222] Re: BBS Functions ?  
> >Greg,  
> >  
> How about a BBS fwding function that would allow the Sysop to define  
different  
> fwding times for Private Mail vs Bulletins.

Already available.

> All our fwding here is done on a 1 hour cycle, I would like to be able to  
> increase the  
> thruput of Private Mail say to every 15 mins, if necessary, while still  
> doing bulletin  
> fwding only once an hour. Of course it would be necessary for the BBS on the

> other  
> end to follow this convention and not Reverse fwd bulletins to me, unless it  
> was the  
> "hourly" session.

Already available.

> What about a fwding protocol code in FBB that would say, during the  
> Reverse Poll, FP (instead of FF for example) meaning  
> "FWD BACK TO ME -ONLY- PERSONAL MAIL".

This raises "interesting" issues re the BBS spec. The general philosophy now is peer-peer at layers 5-7. One implication of this suggestion is master-slave interactions. Any other bbs authors reading this and want to get involved in discussion of the implications to the spec?

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

## 164. [BBSSIG:1226] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 13:59:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141859.NAA16761@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Jul 13, 10:17pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Consider for a moment that the bltn distribution scheme was not  
> based on flooding, it might be hierarchical. Don't ask how.

The original bulletin distribution scheme was hierarchical. It failed for many reasons. The main reason it failed is the same reason we have had such a problem agreeing on NA vs. NOAM. Humans had to set up and maintain the hierarchy. Bulletin flooding was the response to the failure of hierarchical bulletin distribution.

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

## 165. [BBSSIG:1230] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 14:07:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507141907.OAA16810@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

It seems to me that forwarding protocol from F6FBB is a big improvement to the WA7MBL used by all other bbs software. This FBB forwarding system has just been put in the JNOS TCP/IP software as of version 1.10K.

The software should be true Windows software. Then the sysop has a whole bag of standard Windows capabilities. And he can put the bbs in the "family" computer and be able to do the other things needed.

It should be usable with the G8BPQ Switch. With this Switch it

can be used for ham radio networks or an Internet network. Also there should be a method to input and output messages to a file in MBL format.

There should be a whole mess of sysop settable parameters. It will require an expansion of init.srv from FBB but I like the way FBB has a file "instafbb.exe" which helps the sysop set up all the parameters.

In my opinion, JNOS is coming closest to my idea of a perfect bbs software. It has so many things the sysop can set it confuses a normal person! The only thing it lacks now is "White Pages" for the users and a window's version.

But as is the case with NOS, all it takes is a heck of a lot of time and several people with expensive skills. By the way, the current bbs editors do talk to each other I hear, but they do not seem to agree to work within a framework of ideas like the NOS guys do.

If we could get AA4RE and Hank and F6FBB and MSYS and ... to become PART of an overall project to make the best bbs software and call it a project then we will have something. But to date it has been individual Hams making what they believe is the best software.

I have a friend that makes his living writing code. He has an old Lugable portable computer that is dos but has a UNIX emulator. He sends a company his resume telling him what he has done. He is now often selected as the principle programmer and he hires who he needs to do the job in the time allowed. A whole bunch of programmers are given "tasks" that when they all work together become the desired program.

That is how industry does things. Could not we hams do the same thing?

73 de karl sk

---

## 166. [BBSSIG:1232] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:15:17 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151915.0AA23738@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

According to Ron..

>All our fwding here is done on a 1 hour cycle, I would like to be able to  
>increase the  
>thruput of Private Mail say to every 15 mins, if necessary, while still  
>doing bulletin  
>fwding only once an hour. Of course it would be necessary for the BBS on the  
>other  
>end to follow this convention and not Reverse fwd bulletins to me, unless it  
>was the  
>"hourly" session.

I once did something like that to comply with a need to handle "quiet hours" forwarding, which is pretty much the same deal.. P/T-traffic only.

I don't remember the details very well ( Sorry ! ) but here's a sketchy description...

For each station, I set up TWO forward files, one of which used an ALIAS for the filename, instead of the callsign.

Set one up for bulls with 1 hr fwd cycle, and the other ( ALIAS ) for P/T messages with the 15 minute cycle you're looking for.

There was a trick in there that stopped the reverse forwarding.. I can't remember what it was, but it may have been that the ALIAS isn't recognised by one system or the other, preventing the reverse FWD..

I know this is lousy info, Ron.. But maybe it will give you a starting point.

I'll dig around and see if I can find better info in my floppy disk collection.

Hope this is useful!

It's too bad that whole families have to be torn apart by something as simple as wild dogs.

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:16:05 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tatr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151916.0AA23747@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Set them up in `LANGUAGE.SYS` and `INIT.SRV` as separate languages, and give your system one or two extra language buffers in `LANGUAGE.SYS`.

The buffers allow your system to use several "languages" at one time, so one user can use "BRIEF", while another uses "TECHNOID" at the same time without overworking your hard-drive.. The buffers eat up some RAM, so watch your memory usage. I have been able to get by with two buffers, other systems will need more.

This gives your FBB BBS a more flexible, fun user interface with little or no effect on performance or reliability.

I've tested these language options for 9 months now, and it has become very popular with the local hams. If the BBS seems stodgy or they get tired of looking at the same old thing, they just CHANGE INTERFACES with the OL command.

BRIEF, TEXAN, and MILITARY are the most popular ones, so far.. As far as I can tell, PRISSY is the only one which hasn't seen much use, perhaps because we have a shortage of lady hams in this locale. :-)

This increases the FUN FACTOR for users of your BBS.. Check it out!

I'd be glad to put these language files I have developed in an FTP site if somebody wants me to and will set up permission. I have them all ZIPPed up, along with instructions in a file called SCHIZOID.ZIP

I named the file that way, since it gives you FBB BBS multiple personalities!

But really, it's pretty easy to "roll your own", and by doing so you can make your interface (language) options conform more to YOUR preferences and sense of humour than mine!

I hope some of you guys find this to be useful.. Have fun! :-)

73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio :    N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                                         Internet :    n5pvl@texoma.com

It's too bad that whole families have to be torn apart  
by something as simple as wild dogs.

---

## 168. Re: [BBSSIG:1235] Re: Improved Bulletin Control

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:20:32 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151920.OAA23800@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl wrote:>

>        That was a change to version 5.15B. It allows finishing a message  
> that was incomplete due to a network problem. It works but is too big a  
> headack to use. I and all my forward partners have it turned off.  
>

How can an on/off feature be a headache? Seems to me that you turn it on and leave it alone. It seems that this would be a big benefit to those areas with weak links.

Barry

---

## 169. Re: [BBSSIG:1239] Re: BBS Functions ?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:25:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151925.OAA23880@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> On Jul 13, 10:17pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
>  
> > Consider for a moment that the bltn distribution scheme was not  
> > based on flooding, it might be hierarchical. Don't ask how.  
>  
> The original bulletin distribution scheme was hierarchical.  
> It failed for many reasons. The main reason it failed is the  
> same reason we have had such a problem agreeing on NA vs. NOAM.  
> Humans had to set up and maintain the hierarchy.  
> Bulletin flooding was the response to the failure of  
> hierarchical bulletin distribution.  
>  
>        ... Hank  
>

I understand the problem. What about writing 2 different programs: one for local BBS that has great user interface but minimal fwding, and another program with no/minimal user interface and great fwding algorithms?

The fwding program would have to be coordinated, not just made public. This would force people to cooperate ;-) )

Barry

---

## 170. [BBSSIG:1241] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:26:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151926.OAA23892@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>[snip]

>I have also suggested another code to define the T0 field as well as the @>field.  
>Putting T0:ALL bulletins at lower Priority might encourage people to use the>headers  
>properly.

That's gotta be the best idea I've heard yet on controlling the T0: ALL stuff, Ron!

73 DE Charles Brabham   Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
                          Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

It's too bad that whole families have to be torn apart by something as simple as wild dogs.

---

## 171. [BBSSIG:1242] Re: [NETSIG:1547] [Barry Buelow WA0RJT: Re: HF data capacity?] (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:31:06 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151931.OAA23925@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: [NETSIG:1547] [Barry Buelow WA0RJT: Re: HF data capacity?]

On Jul 14, 3:00pm, Jtaylor@usacec-osigw.army.mil wrote:

Speaking as someone interested in all three aspects of this issue (BBS capabilities, networking protocols, HF issues) I would hope that the folks over on bbs\_sig would indeed provide such data.

Barry, what say: can we phrase this request in some manner to that the bbs folks might consult their logs and help with a bit of input to the networking and HF signalling people?

I don't have access to my own logs, but a rough estimate for CLOVER is something like this: my system is perhaps 33% utilized. During that time, I pass all bulletins except @ WW to W5X0 in Texas, plus 100 - 200 personal messages a day (outgoing plus incoming) to various destinations. This is somewhere in the ballpark of 250k bytes per day. Roughly half of the links use compression, so the actual load on the ionosphere is perhaps 180k bytes per day. This is done using 500 Hz bandwidth at the estimated 33% utilization, indicating a potential of at least .5 MB per day.

Are these the kind of stats you are looking for? If so, can dig through the logs and provide more accurate numbers.

... Hank

> Subject: [NETSIG:1547] [Barry Buelow WA0RJT: Re: [BBSSIG:1228] HF data ca  
> Apparently the TAPR BBSSIG moderator has little respect for the intelligence  
> of the BBS ops in the group to provide the input I requested. He's  
> concerned their responses won't be factual. He suggests this information



> would be better gleaned from the HFSIG (Which is working on experimental  
> protocols, rather than dealing with the day to day reality of forwarding).  
> Or, that I should order back issues of the ARRL CNC to review....sigh...  
>  
> I certainly didn't intend to stir up any controversy here, but Greg, I  
> guess we can kiss the article for the PSR that your requested, goodbye!  
>  
> 73 de Jack  
>  
> ----- Forwarded message # 1:  
>  
> Received: from zeus.ia.net by usacec-osigw.army.mil id aa01678;  
> 14 Jul 95 18:39 MST  
> Received: (from barry@localhost) by zeus.ia.net (8.6.10/8.6.9) id 0AA16791  
for Jtaylor@usacec-osigw.army.mil; Fri, 14 Jul 1995 14:05:54 -0500  
> From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
> Message-Id: <199507141905.0AA16791@zeus.ia.net>  
> Subject: Re: [BBSSIG:1228] HF data capacity?  
> To: Jtaylor@usacec-osigw.army.mil  
> Date: Fri, 14 Jul 1995 14:05:53 -0500 (CDT)  
> In-Reply-To: <199507141708.MAA31109@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com> from  
"Jtaylor@usacec-osigw.army.mil" at Jul 14, 95 12:09:03 pm  
> X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
> Content-Type: text  
> Content-Length: 2644  
>  
> Hi,  
>  
> I hope you won't be terribly upset, but I'd prefer not to post this  
> to BBSSIG. The result will be a partially factual answer saying  
> that this or that scheme is superior.  
>  
> I would strongly suggest that you send this to HFSIG as they will  
> provide a much more definitive answer. You should also consider  
> purchasing the Proceedings from some of the previous ARRL DCC  
> (digital conf). Much good material has been presented by developers  
> of the various schemes: pactor gtor clover etc.  
>  
> You should also check the TAPR ftp site: ftp.tapr.org  
> look at the summaries of HFSIG or other discussions.  
>  
> Please let me know if you judge my reply to be inadequate and I'll  
> try to find you another solid lead.  
>  
> 73 Barry  
>  
>  
>> This message was submitted by Jtaylor@usacec-osigw.army.mil to list  
>> bbssig@tapr.org. If you forward it back to the list, it will be distributed  
>> without the paragraphs above the dashed line. You may edit the Subject:  
line  
>> and the text of the message before forwarding it back.  
>>  
>> If you edit the messages you receive into a digest, you will need to remove  
>> these paragraphs and the dashed line before mailing the result to the list.  
>> Finally, if you need more information from the author of this message, you  
>> should be able to do so by simply replying to this note.  
>>  
>> ----- Message requiring your approval  
-----  
>> Sender: Jtaylor@usacec-osigw.army.mil  
>> Subject: HF data capacity?  
>>  
>> Can anyone on this group provide a reasonable estimate as to how much data  
>> (in terms of total monthly file size in bytes) can be passed on HF? In  
>> addition, any comments from forwarders as to whether the present HF  
>> channel capacity is adequate?  
>>  
>> I realize the average amount of data forwarded each month is going to vary  
>> due to propagation and channel conditions, but would like to get a  
realistic  
>> guesstimate as to HF channel limitations on 30-40-20 meters.  
>>  
>> It would also be useful to quantify the amount of data passed on HF as to  
>> the type of mode, i.e, Clover, packet or pactor.  
>>  
>> What will this information buy us? For starters, it will give us an  
insight  
>> into how well the HF resource is presently being utilized as compared to

```

> > the maximum potential of the medium. From this it may be found that slight
> > modifications to procedures could improve overall data throughput.
 Although
> > we can probably guess, actual average data totals for each mode could be
> > useful in helping forwarding networks to decide on which modem to use. In
> > other words, this information will be helpful in better understanding and
> > managing the HF medium.
> >
> > 73 de Jack
> >
>
>
> ----- End of forwarded messages
>-- End of excerpt from Jtaylor@usacec-osigw.army.mil

```

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
 Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
 Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

## 172. [BBSSIG:1243] Kenwood TM-251E Frecuency control By soft HELP! (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:32:17 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199507151932.0AA23937@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain  
 Sender: Miki Vazquez <mvazquez@cic.teleco>  
 Subject: Kenwood TM-251E Frecuency control By soft HELP!

Hi

I'm the tecnical SysOp of gateway Internet<->ampernet and I have the Kenwood TM-251E, my problem is that the BBS forward is in 144.625 Mhz and my bbs in 144.650Mhz, so that if I want to do forward I have to move in the frecuency and my solucion would be if someone know about how to move in the frecuency via Software

Is Anyone can help me, I'm very pleasen

Thank you for read this.

73's Miki Vazquez

```

+-----+-----+
Miki Vazquez	Vocal de AJUR
E.U.I.T. of Telecommunications	HamRadio Operator class B
Las Palmas (Canary Islands EA8)	Registered Folio 67 num 52627 of book IX
Spain	System Operator Radio/Internet
mvazquez@cic.teleco.ulpgc.es	Gateradio.Teleco.ulpgc.es
f165052@cicei.ulpgc.es	Sysop@Gateradio.Teleco.ulpgc.es
miki@gateradio.teleco.ulpgc.es	Escrito en Espanol Libre
+-----+-----+	
My personal opinion dosen't necessarily reflect of the opinions of AJUR or	
the University of Las Palmas. Thank you for reading this	
+-----+-----+

```

## 173. [BBSSIG:1244] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:32:52 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199507151932.0AA23944@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain  
 Sender: jbrooks@netins.net  
 Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

```

> Yes Jim I hold ALL local bulletins for review. But that's not
> what I'm trying to do. I want to tell a user "don't use ALL as a to
> address. And like that.
>
>
>
>
> How about a little "forced user education". The FBB software allows for a

```

text file that is shown to all users when they log on (ENGLISH.ENT for those using the English language files). It's still not what you're after, but at least the "don't use ALL as a to address" can be sent to the users screen as a friendly (if you wish) reminder each time the bbs is accessed. I'm sure the same can be done with the other bbs software as well.

73 de Jim, K0JJV

---

## 174. [BBSSIG:1245] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:34:57 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151934.0AA23956@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Fri, 14 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> On Jul 14, 9:18am, Howard Goldstein wrote:  
>  
> A whole bunch of good stuff ... hope you can expand on it ...

Thanks. I'll try to go into a bit more detail.

>  
> > Subject: [BBSSIG:1215] Re: BBS Functions ?  
> > On Thu, 13 Jul 1995, Greg Jones wrote:  
> >  
> > > What would the perfect BBS system do ? Function wise.  
> >  
> > Sectionalize the message base  
>  
> What do you mean by "sectionalize"?  
> Can you give some examples?

Messages broken down into categories I can visit on a whim or, more likely, blow past. This begs the question of enforcing topical postings to the various categories; I don't have an answer to that question.

>  
> > Threading  
>  
> Already available, but only at a simple level of discrimination  
> (e.g. the value of the "To:" field)  
> What are you looking for?

I'd like to read a message and all replies to it (and replies to the replies) with one command

>  
> > Twitting  
>  
> What's that? The only image that came to mind involved birds ...

Messages from certain folks ("twits"), the twit(s) to be selected by the bbs user, are hidden from the user.

>  
> > Remember where I was when the connection dropped  
>  
> To what level of granularity?

Excellent question. Real big grains are fine. 'L'ing after being off the air for a few days presents me with a few hundred message headers. If I lose the link during the 'L' I'd like to not have to go back to the beginning. Link drops at other times are tolerable compared to this.

> Since the application is normally not aware of exactly how  
> many bytes you have received when the connection is lost,  
> this may be very difficult to accomplish.

Assume paclen\*maxframe bytes were dumped? I can handle the repeats (short of a few hundred message headers :) Maybe let the user "RE"sume. If he can't handle duping then he won't have to use the resume feature??

>

> > Remember my preferences between sessions  
> > so I don't have to type in long commands to achieve  
> > sectionalization, threading, and twitting  
>  
> Already available.

Can't wait till it's everywhere

>  
> > Compression  
>  
> Available for years. Or do you mean compression on the bbs/user link?

The latter

> If so the user will need an application to handle the compression.  
> What platforms are "must support" beyond DOS and Windows?

So far as I'm concerned, even DOS alone would be fine. If it's an open spec there'll probably be folks out there handling various other platforms. (If it's simple enough I'll try fitting it in the TAPR firmware)

Anything on os beyond this and I risk becoming an os war combatant, a battle best left to the experts...

Howie

--  
Howard Goldstein  
N2WX

hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
<http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/>

---

## 175. [BBSSIG:1246] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:38:11 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151938.OAA23986@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Gary McDuffie <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Fri, 14 Jul 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> That was a change to version 5.15B. It allows finishing a message  
> that was incomplete due to a network problem. It works but is too big a  
> headack to use. I and all my forward partners have it turned off.

I'm really curious about this one. I've been using the "resume" feature since it came out and have never found a problem or anything that could be considered a "headache to use". Could you please elaborate on what they have found wrong with it? It sure saves a lot of time starting over, especially on hf. Not saying you're wrong, just wondering what I'm missing!

Gary

---

## 176. [BBSSIG:1228] HF data capacity? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:39:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151939.OAA24002@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Jtaylor@usacec-osigw.army.mil  
Subject: HF data capacity?

Can anyone on this group provide a reasonable estimate as to how much data (in terms of total monthly file size in bytes) can be passed on HF? In addition, any comments from forwarders as to whether the present HF channel capacity is adequate?

I realize the average amount of data forwarded each month is going to vary due to propagation and channel conditions, but would like to get a realistic

guestimate as to HF channel limitations on 30-40-20 meters.

It would also be useful to quantify the amount of data passed on HF as to the type of mode, i.e, Clover, packet or pactor.

What will this information buy us? For starters, it will give us an insight into how well the HF resource is presently being utilized as compared to the maximum potential of the medium. From this it may be found that slight modifications to procedures could improve overall data throughput. Although we can probably guess, actual average data totals for each mode could be useful in helping forwarding networks to decide on which modem to use. In other words, this information will be helpful in better understanding and managing the HF medium.

73 de Jack

---

## 177. Re: [BBSSIG:1251] Re: BBS Functions ?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 15 Jul 1995 14:49:54 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507151949.0AA24051@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
...>
> >[snip]
>
> >I have also suggested another code to define the T0 field as well as the @
> >field.
> >Putting T0:ALL bulletins at lower Priority might encourage people to use the
> >headers
> >properly.
>
> That's gotta be the best idea I've heard yet on controlling the T0: ALL
> stuff, Ron!
>
```

This would be kind of radical, but what if we all just stopped forwarding bltns with T0=ALL ? It would make a point.

The ALL issue is one of my long time triggers. Users tend to learn by "monkey see, monkey do". (;-) In the absence of user education, they are just going to repeat what they see, assuming it is acceptable practice. "ALL" isn't really bad practice, its just that nearly any other T0 is better.

Barry

---

## 178. [BBSSIG:1259] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 10:32:15 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507161532.KAA28739@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Sat, 15 Jul 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

```
> Karl wrote:>
> > That was a change to version 5.15B. It allows finishing a message
> > that was incomplete due to a network problem. It works but is too big a
> > headack to use. I and all my forward partners have it turned off.
> >
> >
> > How can an on/off feature be a headache? Seems to me that you turn
> > it on and leave it alone. It seems that this would be a big benefit
> > to those areas with weak links.
> >
> > Barry
> >
> >
```

The feature Barry is not a pain. As you say you can turn it on or off in init.srv. The pain part was using the function. I am a bit hazy about what happened but it was I recall a lot of "forplay" on every bbs connect getting set up to finish forwarding a partial message.

Now on HF this might be worth a lot on a long message.

New subject:

Someone wanted to forward only mail 4 times an hour and bulletins once an hour. I and F6CNB do this now with the FBB software. If anyone is interested I can put my forward.sys file in a message.

73, karl

---

## 179. [BBSSIG:1260] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 10:32:36 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507161532.KAA28745@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Sat, 15 Jul 1995, Gary McDuffie wrote:

> On Fri, 14 Jul 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:  
>  
>  
> > That was a change to version 5.15B. It allows finishing a message  
> > that was incomplete due to a network problem. It works but is too big a  
> > headack to use. I and all my forward partners have it turned off.  
>  
> I'm really curious about this one. I've been using the "resume" feature  
> since it came out and have never found a problem or anything that could  
> be considered a "headache to use". Could you please elaborate on what  
> they have found wrong with it? It sure saves a lot of time starting  
> over, especially on hf. Not saying you're wrong, just wondering what I'm  
> missing!  
>  
>  
> Gary  
>  
>

Hi Gary, see my other msg to Barry on the subject, but I theorize it would be good on 300 baud HF. My experience was on VHF and UHF...and I think one problem had to do with another bbs using other than FBB software. Might have been and was I think MSYS. In all cases it is just that it isn't useful on VHF.

-karl k5di

---

## 180. [BBSSIG:1261] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 10:33:29 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507161533.KAA28751@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Sat, 15 Jul 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> ..>  
> > >[snip]  
> >  
> > >I have also suggested another code to define the T0 field as well as the @  
> > >field.  
> > >Putting T0:ALL bulletins at lower Priority might encourage people to use the  
> > >headers  
> > >properly.  
> >  
> > That's gotta be the best idea I've heard yet on controlling the T0: ALL  
> > stuff, Ron!  
> >

```

>
> This would be kind of radical, but what if we all just stopped forwarding
> bltns with TO=ALL ? It would make a point.
>
> The ALL issue is one of my long time triggers. Users tend to learn
> by "monkey see, monkey do". (;-) In the absence of user education, they
> are just going to repeat what they see, assuming it is acceptable practice.
> "ALL" isn't really bad practice, its just that nearly any other TO is
> better.
>
> Barry
>
>
>
Well Barry, it's simple to remove ALL@XXXXXX from the packet
world. If every FBB sysop put:

R B * * ALL * 0

into there rejet.sys or reject.sys file, No-one on their bbs could send a
bulletin with that To address AND any that arrive will be rejected and
not shown/forwarded.

This might be a good idea. What I want is a list of To verbs that
I could flash in front of the user before he decides to type something else.

Also we do live in a world that for some strange reason, everyone
doesn't speak English! So a real good verb like SALE is wonderful for you
and me but not so good in Germany and France.

```

73. de karl k5di

## 181. [BBSSIG:1262] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

```

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 10:36:10 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199507161536.KAA28776@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>According to Ron..
>
>>All our fwding here is done on a 1 hour cycle, I would like to be able to
>>increase the
>>thruput of Private Mail say to every 15 mins, if necessary, while still
>>doing bulletin
>>fwding only once an hour. Of course it would be necessary for the BBS on the
>>other
>>end to follow this convention and not Reverse fwd bulletins to me, unless it
>>was the
>>"hourly" session.
>
>I once did something like that to comply with a need to handle "quiet hours"
>forwarding, which is pretty much the same deal.. P/T-traffic only.
>
>I don't remember the details very well (Sorry !) but here's a sketchy
>description...
>
>For each station, I set up TWO forward files, one of which used an ALIAS for
>the filename, instead of the callsign.
>
>
>Hope this is useful!
>
>
>73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM
> Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com
>
>
Yes Charles I realize it can be done that way, and as I mentioned in an earlier
post that I have done that in FBB for USA/WW bulletins but its a lot of work to
setup an extra set of files for each BBS you fwd to.
I was thinking of a new feature for FBB that could apply to ALL fwding,
not only giving Personal Mail first Priority (which it does now) but also
allow more frequent sessions.

```

In my second note I took that one step further and suggested the ability to

prioritise the fwding bulletins by category.

Thanks for your input. I've also posted the notes on the FBB list for the next "wish-list".

73 - Ron velaic

---

## 182. [BBSSIG:1263] Re: FBB User interface options (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 10:36:47 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507161536.KAA28783@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: FBB User interface options

>From Charles:  
[snip]

>  
>I'd be glad to put these language files I have developed in an FTP site if  
>somebody wants me to and will set up permission. I have them all ZIPPed up,  
>along with instructions in a file called SCHIZOID.ZIP  
>  
>73 DE Charles Brabham     Packet Radio :   N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
>                             Internet :   n5pvl@texoma.com

Great idea Charles, perhaps Greg or Barry can suggest an upload area on TAPR ftp.

73 - Ron velaic

---

## 183. [BBSSIG:1264] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 10:37:54 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507161537.KAA28789@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>...>  
>> >[snip]  
>>  
>> >I have also suggested another code to define the T0 field as well as the @  
>> >field.  
>> >Putting T0:ALL bulletins at lower Priority might encourage people to use the  
>> >headers  
>> >properly.  
>>  
>> That's gotta be the best idea I've heard yet on controlling the T0: ALL  
>> stuff, Ron!  
>>  
>  
>This would be kind of radical, but what if we all just stopped forwarding  
>btlns with T0=ALL ? It would make a point.  
>  
>The ALL issue is one of my long time triggers. Users tend to learn  
>by "monkey see, monkey do". (:-) In the absence of user education, they  
>are just going to repeat what they see, assuming it is acceptable practice.  
>"ALL" isn't really bad practice, its just that nearly any other T0 is  
>better.  
>  
>Barry  
>  
>  
>  
Well if we didnt fwd the "T0:ALL" bulletins then the BBS would be required to give the user some notice to that effect.

The other possibility is that another T0 category might end up replacing ALL and be just as useless, in the same way that @WW has (almost) replaced @ALLBBS.

I have seen some proposals for a list of acceptable T0: categories but usually this list is so long that even a Sysop cant remember them all.



I would be happy with a condensed version of this list with say 6-10 categories that were easy to remember (and spell).

Actually if EVERYONE used TO:SALE and TO:WANT for the Sell/Buy stuff it might cut down on the majority of "TO:ALL" bulletins. Anyone care to venture a guess if this is the case?

73 - Ron  
velaia

---

#### 184. [BBSSIG:1265] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 10:38:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507161538.KAA28800@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Kendall Mauldin <silhouet@thelair.zynet.com>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Fri, 14 Jul 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

.....

>  
>  
>  
> That is how industry does things. Could not we hams do the same  
> thing?

Karl,

I believe you just hit the nail on the head! It definately would be great if all the hams programming these BBS systems would get together and make this a joint project. We definatly wouldn't have today's problem of BBS systems being non-compatible. JNOS is a fine example of a system going in the right direction.

-Kendall Mauldin -----silhouet@thelair.zynet.com-----  
(KC5IZT)

---

#### 185. [BBSSIG:1266] A new BBS program (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 10:40:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507161540.KAA28815@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>  
Subject: A new BBS program

A lot of these ideas were kicked around at Dayton this year. At that meeting, the consensus seemed to be that there should be little (if any) effort to improve the BBS user interface.

The "next generation" BBS program would have a simple interface like we have now but be much more enabled for a client/server interface. It was felt that the majority of the work should be in building an GUI type front end program.

Roy

---

#### 186. Re: [BBSSIG:1271] ftp site

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 18:57:29 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507162357.SAA29755@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> >From Charles:  
> [snip]  
>  
> >  
> >I'd be glad to put these language files I have developed in an FTP site if  
> >somebody wants me to and will set up permission. I have them all ZIPPed up,  
> >along with instructions in a file called SCHIZOID.ZIP

> >  
> >73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
> > Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com  
>  
>  
> Great idea Charles, perhaps Greg or Barry can suggest an upload area on  
> TAPR ftp.  
>  
> 73 - Ron velaic  
>  
Should we set up a subdirectory for user contributed programs?  
Maybe a subdirectory for each type of BBS program would be nice. Is  
this a worthwhile idea? I'll investigate if we can do this on  
ftp.tapr.org.

Barry

---

### 187. Re: [BBSSIG:1272] TO: ALL

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 19:06:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507170006.TAA29791@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

much deleted...

> >  
> Well if we didnt fwd the "TO:ALL" bulletins then the BBS would be required to  
> give the user some notice to that effect.  
> (from velaic)

Good idea Ron. Generate a msg back to users and tell them to try it  
again. (This feature is in AA4RE).

Dean ke0wo, you listening? How about a new feature of a server program  
that would generate automsg back to the user? Tell him that the msg  
isn't going anywhere and suggest a few options. This wouldn't be  
too painful and difficult for new users.

Maybe a similar option for people using @ALL\* or @WW and suggest other  
local/regional floods that might be more effective?

Barry

---

### 188. [BBSSIG:1275] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 19:08:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507170008.TAA29800@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Gary McDuffie <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Sun, 16 Jul 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> On Sat, 15 Jul 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
>  
> > Karl wrote:>  
> > > That was a change to version 5.15B. It allows finishing a message  
> > > that was incomplete due to a network problem. It works but is too big a  
> > > headack to use. I and all my forward partners have it turned off.  
> > >  
> > >  
> > How can an on/off feature be a headache? Seems to me that you turn  
> > it on and leave it alone. It seems that this would be a big benefit  
> > to those areas with weak links.  
> >  
> > Barry  
> >  
> >  
> >  
> The feature Barry is not a pain. As you say you can turn it on or  
> off in init.srv. The pain part was using the function. I am a bit hazy  
> about what happened but it was I recall a lot of "forplay" on every bbs  
> connect getting set up to finish forwarding a partial message.

I'll have to speak up on that one. What foreplay? There is no more

"foreplay" for that function than if it is turned off. The only difference in the exchange between the two stations is that the + is replaced by a number indicating at what point in the message it needs to be resumed. Instead of seeing a ++++ response to send 5 pieces of traffic, the sender sees 1500+++. This says to send the first one beginning at 1500 bytes into the message and then send the other four. That may be an oversimplification, but is all there is to the exchange and there is no bumping and grinding of the old 286 when it happens either. It just happens and time is saved.

> Now on HF this might be worth a lot on a long message.

Very much so...and to a lesser degree, also on vhf.

The earlier discussion about forwarding P mail only during a connect is covered in the docs. Using IF statements, you can set the period (in my case, quiet hours during primetime) to send P/T only. During the other hours, bulletins will go, with P/T taking priority. There is one trick that has to be included during quiet hours to insure that the other station doesn't begin a bulletin forward back to you. You just put it in the quiet hours portion (IF-ENDIF) that you won't poll him for reverse forwards. You send your stuff to him and then disconnect. Some software won't let you do that, so you tell the other station to not forward at all to you and then you tell yours to poll him once an hour (or whatever) to see if he has something. When you don't poll him, he won't be able to send to you, maintaining quiet hours.

Gary

---

## 189. [BBSSIG:1276] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 19:10:12 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507170010.TAA29807@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Gary McDuffie <mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

On Sun, 16 Jul 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> > I'm really curious about this one. I've been using the "resume" feature  
> > since it came out and have never found a problem or anything that could  
> > be considered a "headache to use". Could you please elaborate on what  
> > they have found wrong with it? It sure saves a lot of time starting  
> > over, especially on hf. Not saying you're wrong, just wondering what I'm  
> > missing!  
> >  
> >  
> > Gary  
> >  
> >  
> Hi Gary, see my other msg to Barry on the subject, but I theorize  
> it would be good on 300 baud HF. My experience was on VHF and UHF...and I  
> think one problem had to do with another bbs using other than FBB  
> software. Might have been and was I think MSYS. In all cases it is just  
> that it isn't useful on VHF.  
>  
> -karl k5di

I forward with three MSYS stations. To be honest, I don't know if they have that feature or not. If they don't, I'm sure it won't try to use it. I've never seen anything to get my attention on it. In fact, I only forward to two FBB stations, and one is on hf.

Your last statement that it isn't useful on vhf seems a little strange. Since it doesn't cost anything to leave it turned on (won't use it if the other station doesn't support it), what does it hurt? It will save SOME when it runs into a station that supports it, unless of course you never have any disconnects in the middle of a message. And then, it still doesn't cost anything. Frankly, as poor as our local networks is here, I rarely see disconnects in the middle of messages. Of course, we don't have tons of activity either.

Gary

---

## 190. [BBSSIG:1277] Re: Improved Bulletin Control (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 19:15:09 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507170015.TAA29822@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: Improved Bulletin Control

>  
>  
>New subject:  
>  
>       Someone wanted to forward only mail 4 times an hour and bulletins  
>once an hour. I and F6CNB do this now with the FBB software. If anyone is  
>interested I can put my forward.sys file in a message.  
>  
>  
>73, karl  
>  
As mentioned Karl you can do that with multiple fwd files but I was talking  
about  
a global BBS function that would apply to fwding to everyone.  
  
Anyway, go ahead and post your idea as it may trigger some more thoughts on  
the idea..hey we might learn something new too!

73 - Ron velaic

---

## 191. ftp.tapr.org upload area

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 16 Jul 1995 19:29:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507170029.TAA29872@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Regarding an ftp site for contributed programs, at ftp.tapr.org  
there is a public area for uploads. If you have something to  
contribute, please do the following.

1. Post a msg to the BBSSIG announcing what you have uploaded,  
what BBS program does this work with,  
function of the program,  
your name, packet and email addresses,  
any other summary information you might have.
2. Post 2 files:  
data file - zipped  
info file - please use a ".info"

<ftp://ftp.tapr.org/tapr/SIG/bbssig/upload/>

---

## 192. looking for pkt orgs

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 17 Jul 1995 09:08:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507171408.JAA04402@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

TAPR is interested in compiling a list of packet organizations both  
domestic and international. The list will be used to make referrals  
to local organizations and will be made public in ftp site.

If you are a member of a local or regional organization (or have first  
hand knowledge) please send me an email with the following information.

Personal Info  
your name  
callsign  
email  
packet address

Organization Info  
Org name  
area served (city, state, region, etc.)  
Functions of the organization

- BBS fwd coordination
  - network node coord
  - user help
  - formal/informal freq coord
- Other information you wish to include

**Contact Person**

This is someone who is an official of the organization that can handle inquiries and potentially new members.

Name  
callsign  
email address  
packet address  
mail address  
phone

Please send this information to:

Barry Buelow  
WA0RJT  
barry@ia.net  
wa0rjt@wa0rjt.ia.usa.noam

---

## 193. TAPR's Regional Digital Group List

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Mon, 17 Jul 1995 15:30:54 -0500 (CDT)  
To: tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing),  
netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing)  
Cc: psr@tapr.org (PSR), tapr-board@tapr.org (TAPR Board),  
tapr-sys@dingus.n5lyt.ampr.org (TAPR SYS)  
Message-ID: <199507172030.PAA20114@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

### Regional Digital Organizations List (7/1/95)

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This list is now available as part of the TAPR Web Page.  
[http://www.tapr.org/tapr/html/regional\\_groups.html](http://www.tapr.org/tapr/html/regional_groups.html)

or can be accessed from the TAPR Home Page  
<http://www.tapr.org/tapr>

If your regional organization has a web page or Internet e-mail address, please let us know, so that we can generate the required link from this page to your page. We have linked as many as we know about.

=====

If you have corrections or additions to this list, please contact the office. TAPR hopes to keep this list as accurate as possible in order to refer information and individuals to their regional group(s).

Amateur Radio Research and Development Corp (AMRAD)  
PO Box 6148  
McLean, VA 22106-6148  
Newsletter: AMRAD Newsletter

American Radio Relay League (ARRL)  
225 Main St  
Newington, CT 6111  
Internet: INFO@ARRL.ORG  
<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/barc/arrl.html>  
Newsletter: QEX / Gateway

Arizona Packet Radio Association  
8402 E Angus Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Central Illinois Packet Radio User Society (CIPRUS)  
c/o Larry Keeran K9ORP  
RR 1 Box 181  
Hudson, IL 61748-9750

Central Iowa Technical Society (CITS)  
c/o Ralph Wallio W0RPK  
1250 Hwy G24  
Indianapolis, IA 50125

Chicago Amateur Packet Radio Association (CAPRA)

PO Box 8251  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008  
Newsletter: The CAPRA Beacon

Cincinnati Amateur Packet Radio Experimenters Society (CAPRES)  
c/o John Schroer IV KA8GRH  
948 Halesworth Dr  
Forest Park, OH 45240

Colorado Digital Electronics (CODE)  
3631 Brentwood Terrace  
Colorado Springs, CO 80910  
Internet: info@code.org

Colorado Packet Association (COPA)  
c/o John Radomski KT0H  
2080 S Fairplay  
Aurora, CO 80014

Connecticut Digital Radio Association (CONNECT)  
c/o Tom Hogerty, KC1J  
83 Harold Rd  
Farmington, CT 6032

Eastern Packet Radio of Michigan (EPRM)  
c/o Jay Nugent WB8TKL  
3081 Braeburn Cir  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

EastNet BackBone Network (EBN)  
c/o John Gubernard, K2LSX  
81 Harcourt Ave  
Bergenfield, NJ 07621-1916

Florida Amateur Digital Communications Association (FADCA)  
812 Childers Loop  
Brandon, FL 33511  
Newsletter: FADCA>Beacon

Georgia Radio Amateur Packet Enthusiast Society (GRAPES)  
PO Box 871  
Alpharetta, GA 30239-0871  
<http://www.mindspring.com/~bobm/grapes/grapes.html>  
Newsletter: Grapevine

Hamilton and Area Packet Network (HAPN)  
Box 4466 Station D  
Hamilton, ON L8V 4S7  
Canada

HEX 9 Group  
PO Box 151  
Orilla, ON L3V 6J3  
Canada

Mid-Atlantic Packet Radio Club  
c/o Tom Clark W3IWI  
6388 Guilford Rd  
Clarksville, MD 21029

Mississippi Amateur Radio Digital Association (MARDa)  
c/o Patrick J Fagan WA5DYV  
2412 E Birch Dr  
Gulfport, MS 39503

Mt Ascutney Amateur Packet Radio Association  
c/o Carl Breuning N1CB  
54 Myrtle St  
Newport, NH 03773

Mt Beacon Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 841  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

New England Packet Radio Association (NEPRA)  
PO Box 208  
East Kingston, NH 03827  
Newsletter: NEPRA PacketEar

North East Digital Association (NEDA)  
PO Box 563  
Manchester, NH 03105  
<http://www.cam.org/~dino/neda/neda.html>

Northern California Packet Association (NCPA)  
6608B Alhambra Ave Suite 111  
Martinez, CA 94553  
Newsletter: NCPA Download

Northwest Amateur Packet Radio Association (NAPRA)  
c/o John Gates N7BTI  
750 Northstream Ln  
Edmonds, WA 98020  
Newsletter: Zero Retries

Ohio Packet Enthusiasts Club (OPAC)  
c/o Bob Ball WB8WGA  
830 Riva Ridge Blvd  
Gahanna, OH 43230

Oregon Digital Network Coordination Council (ODNCC)  
7860 SW 69th Av  
Portland, OR 97223

Pacific Packet Radio Society (PPRS)  
PO Box 51562  
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Packet Radio Organization of Montana (PROM)  
c/o Glenda Allen KE7TB  
165 Conifer Rd  
Libby, MT 59923

Packeteers of Long Island (POLI)  
c/o Alex Mendelsohn AI2Q  
92 Hathaway Av  
Elmont, NY 11003  
Newsletter: The POLI Parrot

Pennsylvania Packet Association (PaPA)  
c/o Bryan Simanic WA3UFN  
9 Wild Cherry Dr  
DuBois, PA 15801

Puget Sound Amateur Radio TCP/IP Group  
c/o Steve Stroh N8GNJ  
14919 NE 163rd Street  
Woodinville, WA 98072

Radio Amateur Satellite Corp (AMSAT)  
PO Box 27  
Washington, DC 20044  
<http://www.qualcomm.com/amsat/AmsatHome.html>  
Newsletter: AMSAT Journal

Radio Amateur Telecommunications Society (RATS)  
c/o J Gordon Beattie Jr N2DSY  
206 North Vivyan St  
Bergenfield, NJ 07621  
<http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/rats.html>

Rochester Packet Group  
c/o Fred Cupp W2DUC  
27 Crescent Rd  
Fairport, NY 14450

San Diego Packet Group (SDPG)  
c/o Mike Brock WB6HHV  
10230 Mayer Cir  
San Diego, CA 92126

San Diego Packet Radio Association (SANDPAC)  
c/o Barry Gershenfeld  
5085 Arroyo Lindo Av  
San Diego, CA 92117  
Newsletter: San Diego Packet Radio Association Newsletter

South Carolina Amateur Radio Digital Society (SCARDS)

PO Box 1281  
Columbia, SC 29202  
Newsletter: SCARDS Newsletter

Southern Amateur Packet Society (SAPS)  
c/o Wayne Harrell WD4LYV  
Rt 1 Box 368  
Sycamore, GA 31790

Southern California Digital Communications Council (SCDCC)  
PO Box 2744  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647-2744  
Newsletter: The I-Frame

Tennessee Network (TENNET)  
c/o Jeffrey Austen K9JA  
2051 Clearview Drive  
Cookeville, TN 38506  
Internet: jra1854@ntech.edu

Texas Packet Radio Society (TPRS)  
PO Box 50238  
Denton, TX 76206-0238  
Internet: wo5h@tapr.org  
<http://www.tapr.org/tprs>  
Newsletter: The TPRS Quarterly Report

Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Corporation (TAPR)  
8987-309 E. Tanque Verde Rd #337  
Tucson, AZ 85749-9399  
Internet: TAPR@TAPR.ORG  
<http://www.tapr.org/tapr>  
Newsletter: Packet Status Register

TwinsLAN Amateur Radio Club  
c/o Kermit Kramer W0RFD  
1121 Xerxes Av S  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
Newsletter: The TwinsLAN Beacon

Utah Packet Radio Association (UPRA)  
c/o Bart Van Allen KA7ZFD  
11883 S Kinney Cir  
Riverton, UT 84065

Vancouver Amateur Digital Communications Group (VADCG)  
9531 Odlin Rd  
Richmond, BC V6X 1E1  
Canada  
Newsletter: The Packet

Wake Digital Communications Group (WDCG)  
c/o Randy Ray WA5SZL  
9401 Taurus Ct  
Raleigh, NC 27612

Western Michigan Packet Radio Association (WMPRA)  
PO Box 4612  
Muskegon, MI 49444

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association (WAPRA)  
PO Box 1215  
Fond Du Lac, WI 54935  
Newsletter: Badger State Smoke Signals

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Tucson Amateur Packet Radio  
8987-309 E Tanque Verde Rd #337 \* Tucson, Az \* 85749-9399 \* 817-383-0000  
E-Mail: [tapr@tapr.org](mailto:tapr@tapr.org) <http://www.tapr.org/tapr> [listserv@tapr.org](mailto:listserv@tapr.org)  
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## 194. [BBSSIG:1286] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <[barry@ia.net](mailto:barry@ia.net)>  
Date: Mon, 17 Jul 1995 21:41:59 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199507180242.VAA07831@zeus.ia.net>



Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Jul 15, 2:38pm, Charles Brabham wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1251] Re: BBS Functions ?  
> >[snip]  
>  
> >I have also suggested another code to define the T0 field as well as the @  
> >field.  
> >Putting T0:ALL bulletins at lower Priority might encourage people to use the  
> >headers  
> >properly.  
>  
> That's gotta be the best idea I've heard yet on controlling the T0: ALL  
> stuff, Ron!

We use a short expire to hint that things other than ALL should  
be used. Presently set to something like 9 - 14 days for most  
bulletin types, but 2-3 days for ALL.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

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## 195. [BBSSIG:1287] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 17 Jul 1995 21:42:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507180242.VAA07840@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Jul 15, 2:35pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1250] Re: BBS Functions ?  
> >  
> > On Jul 13, 10:17pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
> >  
> > > Consider for a moment that the bltn distribution scheme was not  
> > > based on flooding, it might be hierarchical. Don't ask how.  
> >  
> > The original bulletin distribution scheme was hierarchical.  
> > It failed for many reasons. The main reason it failed is the  
> > same reason we have had such a problem agreeing on NA vs. NOAM.  
> > Humans had to set up and maintain the hierarchy.  
> > Bulletin flooding was the response to the failure of  
> > hierarchical bulletin distribution.  
> >  
> > ... Hank  
> >  
>  
> I understand the problem. What about writing 2 different programs:  
> one for local BBS that has great user interface but minimal fwding,  
> and another program with no/minimal user interface and great fwding  
> algorithms?  
>  
> The fwding program would have to be coordinated, not just made public.  
> This would force people to cooperate ;-) )

There is another way to think about this issue.  
Two requirements are involved; the "no dups" requirement and the  
"efficient distribution" requirement. "Flood" capability really  
just means "avoidance of potential duplicates based on a universal  
identifier of message content". We can still set up our forwarding  
network to be as efficient as possible, whether done as a tree  
structure or hub/spoke or whatever works best in each situation.

So there is not actually an "either/or" but rather two parts of  
a single solution. The BID concept solves the duplicates problem,  
and distribution lists/forwarding tables solve the distribution  
problem.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

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## 196. [BBSSIG:1291] FBB & phone modem (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WAØRJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 18 Jul 1995 11:33:12 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507181633.LAA12970@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dave Wolf <wo5h>  
Subject: FBB & phone modem

I've recently replaced my 4RE user board software with FBB. Only problem I am having is getting the phone modem to work. Modem worked okay with 5.15 on the BBS forwarding system. Modem worked okay with 4RE on the user system. Now with both systems combined on one computer using 5.15c FBB, the phone modem doesn't work. First used an internal 14,400 with an oddball IRQ. Thought that might be a problem so have tried an external 14,400 on 'conventional' COM1. No luck.

Is there something about FBBIOS or phone modem setup with FBB 5.15c that is unusual that I'm just not aware of?

Maybe some examples of some successful setup file segments dealing with the modem would be helpful.

Thanks, 73 de Dave W05H  
dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

---

## 197. [BBSSIG:1297] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WAØRJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 18 Jul 1995 18:02:29 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507182302.SAA14696@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: N5IST@aol.com  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

In a message dated 95-07-16 12:34:20 EDT, velaic writes:

>Yes Charles I realize it can be done that way, and as I mentioned in an  
>earlier  
>post that I have done that in FBB for USA/WW bulletins but its a lot of work  
>to  
>setup an extra set of files for each BBS you fwd to.  
>I was thinking of a new feature for FBB that could apply to ALL fwding,  
>not only giving Personal Mail first Priority (which it does now ) but also  
>allow more frequent sessions.  
>  
>In my second note I took that one step further and suggested the ability to  
>prioritise the fwding bulletins by category.  
>  
>Thanks for your input. I've also posted the notes on the FBB list for the  
>next  
>"wish-list".  
>  
>73 - Ron velaic

Hi Ron:

Wanted to mention that using, for example, U ARRL AMSAT TEXAS USA WW in a forwarding block will prioritize bulletin forwarding. ARRL going first of course.

73,  
Wade  
N5IST @ N5VGC.#DFW.TX.USA.NOAM  
n5ist@aol.com

---

## 198. [BBSSIG:1294] Re: A new BBS program (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WAØRJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 18 Jul 1995 17:39:40 -0500 (CDT)

To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507182239.RAA14600@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: A new BBS program

>A lot of these ideas were kicked around at Dayton this year. At that  
>meeting, the consensus seemed to be that there should be little (if  
>any) effort to improve the BBS user interface.  
>  
>T  
>The "next generation" BBS program would have a simple interface like we  
>have now but be much more enabled for a client/server interface. It  
>was felt that the majority of the work should be in building an GUI  
>type front end program.  
>  
>Roy  
>

Roy, I had trouble following you. ( Sorry! ) I understood part of what you  
were saying, and was interested it what I "thought" I heard..

Could you expand on this, please?

73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

Philosophers must ultimately find thier true perfection  
in knowing all the follies of mankind by introspection.

---

## 199. [BBSSIG:1295] Re: ftp.tapr.org upload area (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 18 Jul 1995 17:40:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507182240.RAA14607@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: ftp.tapr.org upload area

>  
>  
>Regarding an ftp site for contributed programs, at ftp.tapr.org  
>there is a public area for uploads. If you have something to  
>contribute, please do the following.  
>  
>1. Post a msg to the BBSSIG announcing what you have uploaded,  
> what BBS program does this work with,  
> function of the program,  
> your name, packet and email addresses,  
> any other summary information you might have.  
>  
>2. Post 2 files:  
> data file - zipped  
> info file - please use a ".info"  
>  
>  
>ftp://ftp.tapr.org/tapr/SIG/bbssig/upload/  
>  
>

Thanks for the info, Barry! That's a nice setup. I'll get off my can today  
and do as you suggested, since a few guys have expressed an intrest in the  
"schizoid" stuff.

I left your message above in it's entirity, in case somebody missed it first  
time around. I wonder if this info could ( or should ) be randomly sent to  
the SIG at intervals, as a reminder?

73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

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---

## 200. [BBSSIG:1293] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 18 Jul 1995 17:39:02 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507182239.RAA14593@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>> That is how industry does things. Could not we hams do the same  
>> thing?  
>  
>Karl,  
> I believe you just hit the nail on the head! It definately would be  
>great if all the hams programming these BBS systems would get together  
>and make this a joint project. We definatly wouldn't have today's  
>problem of BBS systems being non-compatible. JNOS is a fine example of  
>a system going in the right direction.  
>  
>-Kendall Mauldin -----silhouet@thelair.zynet.com-----  
> (KC5IZT)  
>

I think this is largely a matter of personal taste.

To me, having several authors who write different BBS software which all covers the same BASIC FUNCTION, but which has been expressed in different ways gives us much better software.

It gives us diversity, new functions, new ideas about user interfaces, and custom tailors ALL "flavors" to work best in thier intended environment.. RF.

To me TCP/IP is boring, stultified software which very little imagination has been applied to. It works well in it's intended environment ( wireline ) but is not optimised for RF, mainly because the folks who care to DEVELOP TCP/P don't appear to be "optimised for RF ". -- Witness the "connectivity" buzzword, it's implications, and who employs it.

As a HAM RADIO APPLICATION, most if not all of TCP/IP's progress over the last five years has been directly related to emulating functions already developed for AX25 BBS software, in it's diversity. - This is where \*NOS "codesmiths" must look to for originality, and for functions which apply to Ham Radio.

Again though; This is a matter of personal taste.. I prefer having a wide selection of software which is optimised for the INTENDED PURPOSE.

73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

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---

## 201. Mail Problems

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 19 Jul 1995 21:21:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507200221.VAA26214@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

This effects the BBSSIG.

Barry

>  
> Dingus suffered a minor disk problem today. The problem is corrected, but  
> a few mail queue entries may have been lost and other mail may be delayed.  
>  
> List owners, please pass this on to your lists.  
>  
> 73/Lee, N5LYT  
>

---

## 202. [BBSSIG:1303] Re: FBB Forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 19 Jul 1995 21:22:29 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <199507200222.VAA26220@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: NSIST@aol.com  
Subject: Re: FBB Forwarding

In a message dated 95-07-16 12:34:20 EDT, Ron VE1AIC writes:

>Yes Charles I realize it can be done that way, and as I mentioned in an earlier  
>post that I have done that in FBB for USA/WW bulletins but its a lot of work  
>to setup an extra set of files for each BBS you fwd to.  
>I was thinking of a new feature for FBB that could apply to ALL fwding,  
>not only giving Personal Mail first Priority (which it does now ) but also  
>allow more frequent sessions.  
>  
>In my second note I took that one step further and suggested the ability to  
>prioritise the fwding bulletins by category.  
[snip]  
>73 - Ron velaic

Hi Ron:

In PORT.SYS you can define how often you want the forwarding cycle to start. Whether it be once an hour, every five minutes or once every three hours.  
It is defined individually for each port.

FBB can prioritize the forwarding of bulletins based on the @ part of the address.  
If you were to put:  
U AMSAT ARRL NASA USA WW  
in the forwarding block of a neighboring bbs, the AMSAT would be forwarded first,  
ARRL second, etc. Of course, private traffic would be ahead of any bulletins.  
The "U" command is limited to a maximum of eight addresses.

Someone mentioned forwarding private traffic every few minutes and bulletins every hour. Since private traffic is always forwarded first, I don't understand the advantage of going to the trouble of implementing this idea. However, I haven't seen previous post on this subject.

73,  
Wade

---

## 203. [BBSSIG:1304] Re: FBB & phone modem (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 19 Jul 1995 21:22:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507200222.VAA26226@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: NSIST@aol.com  
Subject: Re: FBB & phone modem

In a message dated 95-07-18 13:17:47 EDT, Dave W05H writes:

[snip]  
>Is there something about FBBIOS or phone modem setup with FBB 5.15c that  
>is unusual that I'm just not aware of?  
>  
>Maybe some examples of some successful setup file segments dealing with  
>the modem would be helpful.  
>  
>Thanks, 73 de Dave W05H  
>dwolf@tcet.unt.edu

Hi Dave:

In PORT.SYS try setting modem port frame size to 30, the mininum allowed.  
This helped with lockups I was having many moons ago. Also, set maxframes to 1 for the same reason. The data rate doesn't decline at all with these settings  
and I had a system that gliched maybe once every six months instead of every other day. :-) The datarate for zmodem downloads remained about 1600 bps before and

after  
the changes.

73,  
Wade

---

## 204. [BBSSIG:1296] FBB interface options at TAPR FTP site. (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 19 Jul 1995 22:12:04 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507200312.WAA26460@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: FBB interface options at TAPR FTP site.

Today I placed the following files in the TAPR FTP site at:

ftp.tapr.org/tapr/SIG/bbssig/upload

SCHIZOID.ZIP SCHIZOID.INF

I assume they will be moved into another part of TAPR's site later, but am not positive about this.

SCHIZOID gives SYSOPs of FBB BBS version 515c the capability of having user interface options.

In FBB, the user interface is largely defined by the "language" files in the FBB/SYSTE/LANG directory. Normally, this capability is used to allow Users who speak different languages to all use the same BBS.

I have perverted this multi-language capability, using it to allow multiple user interfaces in ONE language. ( I only speak English, so this is the language I worked on.. The idea will work for ANY language of course, but I was too uneducated to do it for anything but English. )

User interfaces included in SCHIZOID are: BRIEF, COLOR, MILITARY, PRISY, RUDE, TECHNOID, and TEXAN.

Connect to the TAPR FTP site and look at SCHIZOID.INF for more detailed information.

Enjoy!

73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

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in knowing all the follies of mankind by introspection.

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## 205. [BBSSIG:1308] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 08:05:50 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507201305.IAA00982@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>Hi Ron:  
> Wanted to mention that using, for example, U ARRL AMSAT TEXAS USA WW  
>in a forwarding block will prioritize bulletin forwarding. ARRL going first  
>of course.  
>73,  
>Wade  
>N5IST @ N5VGC.#DFW.TX.USA.NOAM  
>n5ist@aol.com  
>

Hey thanks Wade, dug out my FBB "manual" and sure enough thats what it should do. I guess I read it as saying U ROUTE1 ROUTE2 and thinking it was really talking about "routes" .

---

## 206. [BBSSIG:1309] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 08:08:53 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507201308.IAA00994@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Wed, 19 Jul 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

I will take an attempt at a civil dialog on this. This is meant constructively.....

> It gives us diversity, new functions, new ideas about user interfaces, and  
> custom tailors ALL "flavors" to work best in thier intended environment.. RF.  
>  
> To me TCP/IP is boring, stultified software which very little imagination  
> has been applied to. It works well in it's intended environment ( wireline )  
> but is not optimised for RF, mainly because the folks who care to DEVELOP  
> TCP/P don't appear to be "optimised for RF ". -- Witness the "connectivity"  
> buzzword, it's implications, and who employs it.

1) xNOS \*IS\* optimized for RF! Many of us know that this is JUST NOT true. If you have any facts to support this statement, please share them, because my own (and others) personal, daily experiences show this to be inaccurate.

2) Connectivity is \*just\* that! There is NOTHING tying this word (by definition or by usage) to methods and modes EXCLUDING RF, or INCLUSIVE to non-RF. Connectivity is JUST that. Please quit trying to make new \*bad\* words. We have enough trouble constructively communicating and trying to work together to advance Amateur Radio, without making ordinary words have new \*hidden\* meanings.

3) Please do not tell us that diversity is good, only to tell us that this is only as long as it is diversity \*you\* like. Diversity is good, end of sentence.

> As a HAM RADIO APPLICATION, most if not all of TCP/IP's progress over the  
> last five years has been directly related to emulating functions already  
> developed for AX25 BBS software, in it's diversity. - This is where \*NOS  
> "codesmiths" must look to for originality, and for functions which apply to  
> Ham Radio.

Can we please have some substantiation for this often repeated (by you) incorrect statement? As one of the \*few\* people who have been writing new code for the xNOS environment (and doing it for most of the last 5 years), I know this to be false. BUT, since you are the one making the claim, can we have \*some\* basis for this claim?

SOME code has been written for xNOS giving it some other PBBS features, but it is only a small portion of the actual code written.

And this code has been written mainly to provide greater compatibility with existing systems, so as to best work together with the PBBS Message Forwarding system. It has NOT been done to handle any 'lack' of functionality. In fact, most of this work has been redundancy of code. The existing SMTP messaging (for example) is far more flexible for message delivery than the PBBS forwarding protocol. But in order to forward to PBBS systems, it needs that protocol IN ADDITION to it's own protocols.

Much of the code has been adding capabilities, features, and GUI items, which are unique to xNOS, and also are highly optimized for slow/medium RF links.

xNOS is NOT a PBBS-only program. The PBBS portion is a \*small\* portion of the capabilities and functionality that is used DAILY by hams around the globe in their local RF networks, whether they be ROSE, Netrom, Flexnet, etc. If you wish to imply that xNOS's PBBS support is inferior to other PBBSs, than do so PURELY on the facts of the functions and capabilities that exist.

I presume (since you use them interchangeably) that you might be having a hard time separating TCP/IP from xNOS. TCP/IP are a set of protocols (just like the PBBS forwarding specification) that govern ways for two different machines to interact. PBBSs are \*far\* more than just the PBBS forwarding spec, and xNOS is \*far\* more than just the TCP/IP protocols.

TCP/IP itself has NOT changed much in recent years. xNOS HAS changed quite a bit, as packet radio and its networking gains experience and maturity.

> Again though; This is a matter of personal taste.. I prefer having a wide  
> selection of software which is optimised for the INTENDED PURPOSE.

And NOS was developed for the INTENDED PURPOSE of providing higher level protocols, machine independent, which extend the concepts of networking FOR AMATEUR RADIO. It was developed to provide a basis to use TCP/IP on a Amateur network. Period.

The fact that it is USED ALSO for some non-RF purposes is NO different than using FBB, MSYS, AA4RE, etc with wireline modems. While this is ALSO a widespread practice, I don't see these PBBSSs getting negatively perceived for these practices.

In fact, a great deal (if not most) of the PBBSSs doing forwarding over the Internet are using BPQ and either MSYS or FBB. But, of course, if we mention Internet, we MUST attack xNOS, right! It's fashionable!

xNOS is DIFFERENT than the normal PBBSS software, and many of us are very glad of this. The average casual PBBSS user seems to connect every few days, lists a few messages (maybe as many as 100 or so), reads a few, and disconnects. With 300+ messages per day coming in, this means that this average user is only AWARE of 1/6th (or less) of the message base.

With xNOS, things are placed in areas based on the content/topic. This allows very easy access to the info the user is interested in. Many like this. In fact, this kind of selectivity is one of the main things that has been discussed here the last few weeks as desirable \*new\* PBBSS features. I doubt you will hear any of the xNOS developers criticizing the PBBSSs if they add in these "non-PBBSS" features.

It is not uncommon to find AX25 users, and TCP/IP users on my machine, both in the BBS and the Conference Bridge, and to have users FTPing files on/off, while I am doing network tweeking/maintenance in several sessions. All having over RF. All using xNOS.

Does this mean xNOS is for everyone? Heck no. But neither is W0RLI, MSYS, FBB, AA4RE, or any other system.

The charter of this SIG says:

> The BBSSIG mailing list charter is to provide a forum for the exchange of  
> information about packet radio bulletin board systems and the issues  
> surrounding their operation.

A PBBSS is \*any\* program which meets (or attempts to meet) the written and unwritten specifications of codesmiths and more importantly USERS, and provides an easy way to interchange information on the excellent PBBSS Message Forwarding system. Any xNOS that provides these capabilities is just as much a part of this charter as a software package whose SOLE purpose is as a PBBSS.

Diversity is good.....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 207. [BBSSIG:1311] Re: TO: ALL (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <[barry@ia.net](mailto:barry@ia.net)>  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 08:10:22 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199507201310.IAA01001@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Dean R Madsen <[dmadsen@iastate.edu](mailto:dmadsen@iastate.edu)>  
Subject: Re: TO: ALL



```

>much deleted...
>> >
>> Well if we didnt fwd the "TO:ALL" bulletins then the BBS would be required t
0
>> give the user some notice to that effect.
>> (from velac)
>
>Good idea Ron. Generate a msg back to users and tell them to try it
>again. (This feature is in AA4RE).
>
>Dean ke0wo, you listening? How about a new feature of a server program
>that would generate automsg back to the user? Tell him that the msg
>isn't going anywhere and suggest a few options. This wouldn't be
>too painful and difficult for new users.
>
>Maybe a similar option for people using @ALL* or @WW and suggest other
>local/regional floods that might be more effective?
>
>Barry

```

Yes, that should be possible. I will look into it. My next day off should be Monday, so I might not get very far until then. Terrible, I have now gone to checking my mail every other day (from several times a day previously).

73,  
Dean - KE0WO

---

## 208. [BBSSIG:1315] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 15:13:39 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507202013.PAA02894@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

According to Brian Lantz...

```

>> To me TCP/IP is boring, stultified software which very little imagination
>> has been applied to. It works well in it's intended environment (wireline)
>> but is not optimised for RF, mainly because the folks who care to DEVELOP
>> TCP/P don't appear to be "optimised for RF ". -- Witness the "connectivity"
>> buzzword, it's implications, and who employs it.
>

```

```

>1) xNOS *IS* optimized for RF! Many of us know that this is JUST NOT
>>true. If you have any facts to support this statement, please share them,
>because my own (and others) personal, daily experiences show this to be
>inaccurate.
>

```

Brian, you should really try to pay closer attention to earlier postings on this subject. Begging questions on issues that have already been covered rather well will not make those facts go away.

If there is some special reason why everything must be explained to you over and over again, let us know. Otherwise, please try to pay closer attention to what has already been said several times over.

```

>>> As a HAM RADIO APPLICATION, most if not all of TCP/IP's progress over the
>> last five years has been directly related to emulating functions already
>> developed for AX25 BBS software, in it's diversity. - This is where *NOS
>> "codesmiths" must look to for originality, and for functions which apply to
>> Ham Radio.
>

```

```

>Can we please have some substantiation for this often repeated (by you)
>incorrect statement? As one of the *few* people who have been writing new
>code for the xNOS environment (and doing it for most of the last 5 years), I
>know this to be false. BUT, since you are the one making the claim, can
>we have *some* basis for this claim?
>

```

Observed reality should serve well here. Has the TCP/IP networking protocol gone through momentous changes in the last five years? If not, WHAT ELSE has been changed to any great degree in the various implementations of NOS? Which software used on packet ORIGINALLY had those functions?

```

>Much of the code has been adding capabilities, features, and GUI items,
>which are unique to xNOS, and also are highly optimized for slow/medium
>RF links.

```



can talk to each other more easily."

My response would be as you expect: "Gee that's neat, why don't you go discuss it somewhere else, on this SIG we are discussing how to use radios for communications."

I find it interesting that there has been no or little response to several questions I posted, some of them quite awhile ago:

1. Has anyone created a BPQ front end driver for CLOVER, AMTOR, PACTOR? Is anyone working on one? Seems like this might help with long haul network linking.
2. Where can I find a technical spec for ROSE (enough information to do my own ROSE implementation). Maybe I simply missed the answer to this one.
3. What actions can we take to cause the adoption of standards in the bbs addressing/forwarding area? The NA/NOAM battle continues, without resolution in sight. Can these SIGs do anything to cause a standard to be adopted?
4. It is clear from many comments that interest exists in improved BBS (and other application and networking) software. Can these SIGs come up with some recommendations? I've seen postings from 2 or 3 folks with good ideas for the BBS systems, a little less from the networking side.

Some other obvious topics these groups might address:

5. How can we better coordinate and optimize the use of existing resources? Examples: network connectivity across boundaries between regions/clubs/metro areas/protocols; coordination of the HF forwarding networks; internetworking issues between applications running on different protocols.
6. How can we influence the manufacturers of radios and modems to more quickly provide higher speed/more capable/cheaper products to help us build a better network?

Sure, the flame wars are fun, but I think they are a symptom of our inability to actually influence what is going on out there in the world.

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

## 210. Good SIG Issues (was Networks real..)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 15:31:34 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507202031.PAA02949@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hank wrote:

>

- > 3. What actions can we take to cause the adoption of standards in  
> the bbs addressing/forwarding area? The NA/NOAM battle continues,  
> without resolution in sight. Can these SIGs do anything to cause  
> a standard to be adopted?  
>

Folks, I totally agree with Hank (better print this Hank and nail it on the wall!) We would be better off to try and find some resolution to these issues. If we could pick a few small areas with not too controversial a topics, we could form the basis for an agreement and build on that.

I'm open to suggestions on how to reach consensus or at least determine a simple majority.

Should we have a time window and call for votes from the SIG members?

Should each State or ARRL section have a vote?

Should each packet organization have a vote?

I'm interested in finding a PROCESS, not an answer to a specific problem.

> 4. It is clear from many comments that interest exists in improved  
> BBS (and other application and networking) software. Can these SIGs  
> come up with some recommendations? I've seen postings from 2 or 3  
> folks with good ideas for the BBS systems, a little less from the  
> networking side.  
>

Until we can find a basis for agreement, improvement in the BBS arena will be impossible. Look at the situation today. Hank is asking, "What should I do?" Good ideas come and go and the SIG is nearly useless as a forum for directing our future. I WANT TO CHANGE THAT.

Barry

---

## 211. NOS

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 15:36:59 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507202036.PAA02979@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Brian and Charles,

I'm trying very hard not to be a pain in the rear about restricting the free flow of ideas, but I the latest exchanges on xNOS have not contained any meat.

Please take this discussion off the SIG. You don't need me to just delay the traffic between you and then you can use whatever temperature you need to make your point.

I'm not happy to do this but I have no choice.

Barry

---

## 212. [BBSSIG:1324] Re: FBB Forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 21:05:26 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507210205.VAA04230@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: FBB Forwarding

> In PORT.SYS you can define how often you want the forwarding cycle to  
> start. Whether it be once an hour, every five minutes or once every three  
> hours.  
> It is defined individually for each port.  
>  
> FBB can prioritize the forwarding of bulletins based on the @ part of  
> the address.  
> If you were to put:  
> U AMSAT ARRL NASA USA WW  
> in the forwarding block of a neighboring bbs, the AMSAT would be forwarded  
> first,  
> ARRL second, etc. Of course, private traffic would be ahead of any bulletins.  
> The "U" command is limited to a maximum of eight addresses.  
>  
> Someone mentioned forwarding private traffic every few minutes and  
> bulletins  
> every hour. Since private traffic is always forwarded first, I don't  
> understand the  
> advantage of going to the trouble of implementing this idea. However, I  
> haven't  
> seen previous post on this subject.  
>  
> 73,  
> Wade  
>

Thanks Wade (and others) who pointed out the use of the U command in the FBB fwd block. Seems I mis-read (or forgot ) its use in the docs  
Guess I should have done my homework.

On the fwd time, I thought it might be nice to fwd Personal Mail as soon as possible, something like SMTP but only fwd bulletins every hour.  
The advantage them is to decrease the propogation time for Personal Mail.  
I use the T P command to stop fwding of bulletins at peak periods but that doesnt help in this case. Ideally a second parameter in Port.Sys, one for Bulletin fwd intervals and the second for Personal Mail intervals.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

## 213. [BBSSIG:1322] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 21:06:09 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507210206.VAA04237@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Thu, 20 Jul 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

> >1) xNOS \*IS\* optimized for RF! Many of us know that this is JUST NOT  
> >true. If you have any facts to support this statement, please share them,  
> >because my own (and others) personal, daily experiences show this to be  
> >inaccurate.  
> >  
> Brian, you should really try to pay closer attention to earlier postings on  
> this subject. Begging questions on issues that have already been covered  
> rather well will not make those facts go away.  
> If there is some special reason why everything must be explained to you over  
> and over again, let us know. Otherwise, please try to pay closer attention  
> to what has already been said several times over.

No, Charles. All that has been said is \*your\* opinion, without an  
substantiation. If you have any facts, please share them. Daily  
experiences are also welcome. Cop-outs of 'it's already been said' only  
show a willingness to avoid a dialog.

> >Can we please have some substantiation for this often repeated (by you)  
> >incorrect statement? As one of the \*few\* people who have been writing new  
> >code for the xNOS environment (and doing it for most of the last 5 years), I  
> >know this to be false. BUT, since you are the one making the claim, can  
> >we have \*some\* basis for this claim?  
> >  
> Observed reality should serve well here.

Fact are FAR beter.....

> Has the TCP/IP networking protocol  
> gone through momentous changes in the last five years?

Are you discussing TCP/IP or xNOS? Please make up your mind, as these are  
two entirely different issues.

> If not, WHAT ELSE has  
> been changed to any great degree in the various implementations of NOS?  
> Which software used on packet ORIGINALLY had those functions?

And where did those kinds of applications ORIGINALLY exist? Packet Radio  
BBSs didn't come out of thin air.

As I wrote (which you didn't seem to read) these have been added for  
compatibility sake.

> >Much of the code has been adding capabilities, features, and GUI items,  
> >which are unique to xNOS, and also are highly optimized for slow/medium  
> >RF links.  
> >  
> GUI interfaces are certainly not unique to NOS, and they certainly are not  
> the most clever idea for use with slow/medium RF connections. They waste  
> spectrum to no constructive purpose, under those circumstances. I would't  
> brag about that idea, Brian.

Please, can we have facts rather than guesses! Since I have not SAID which kinds of GUI, how can you even HOPE to debate this! You have no idea what I am talking about.

> >In fact, a great deal (if not most) of the PBBs doing forwarding over the  
> >Internet are using BPQ and either MSYS or FBB. But, of course, if we  
> >mention Internet, we MUST attack xNOS, right! It's fashionable!  
> >  
> Your information on this is incorrect. The most typical setup is a AX25  
> BBS/NOS combo.

Once again you are just wrong!

> This is done because NOS is set up "perfectly" for use with  
> Internet.  
> Everyone else knows this, Brian, and I frankly doubt that you didn't already  
> know it as well. No need for "smokescreens" here on the BBSSIG.

Please substantiate your position with some facts!

> " Just the facts, Ma'am."

My point, exactly. I will supply you with more than enough facts for my side, as soon as you supply ANY facts to support your opinions.

> >The charter of this SIG says:  
> >  
> >> The BBSSIG mailing list charter is to provide a forum for the exchange of  
> >> information about packet radio bulletin board systems and the issues  
> >> surrounding their operation.  
> >  
> >A PBBS is \*any\* program which meets (or attempts to meet) the written and  
> >unwritten specifications of codesmiths and more importantly USERS, and  
> >provides an easy way to interchange information on the excellent PBBS  
> >Message Forwarding system. Any xNOS that provides these capabilities is  
> >just as much a part of this charter as a software package whose SOLE  
> >purpose is as a PBBS.  
> >  
> Following that "logic", the "PMS on a chip" which comes with most TNC's  
> these days would qualify all owners of TNC's as participants on the BBSSIG.  
> >  
> I don't have any problem with anyone using NOS. I use it myself. What I  
> object to is the short-sighted and destructive practice of using wirelines  
> in preference to RF.

My message addressed nothing like this. If you wish to respond to my message, please respond to the content of it.

> Again, if you will read the postings on the subject, you'll have a better  
> idea of what's being discussed and can make more appropriate responses.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 214. [BBSSIG:1329] FBB Forwarding & TPK "pitch" (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <[barry@ia.net](mailto:barry@ia.net)>  
Date: Fri, 21 Jul 1995 08:16:36 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199507211316.IAA08743@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: NSIST@aol.com  
Subject: FBB Forwarding & TPK "pitch"

In a message dated 95-07-20 22:11:45 EDT, you write:

>On the fwd time, I thought it might be nice to fwd Personal Mail as soon as  
>possible, something like SMTP but only fwd bulletins every hour.

>The advantage them is to decrease the propogation time for Personal Mail.  
>I use the T P command to stop fwding of bulletins at peak periods but that  
>doesnt help in this case. Ideally a second parameter in Port.Sys, one for  
>Bulletin fwd intervals and the second for Personal Mail intervals.  
>  
>73 - Ron VE1AIC

Hi Ron:

If your using BPQ and have more than one port you might be able to  
"fool"  
FBB into doing this. I don't have this fully worked out in my mind. But, here  
goes...  
You setup PORT.SYS so port 1 or A will forward say every ten minutes. Port  
2 or B is setup for every hour. Now, you edit your forwarding files to have  
two  
forward blocks for each bbs. One with the real callsign and the other could  
use  
an alias of the bbs. eg. N5IST and ISTBBS. In the N5VGC file you define port  
A with a "P A", I think. You connect to the BPQ switch and use C NODE where  
BPQ will go out the correct port to that node regardless of the port you  
connected  
to BPQ through. Does this make any sense!? Har!... FBB is using port A to get  
to BPQ.  
So, it forwards every ten minutes. In the other forwarding file P B would be  
used to get  
to the BPQ switch and forwarding would occur every hour. You know, you might  
be  
able to use one forwarding file with multiple forward blocks to do this, too.  
Just  
put the P A and P B statements inside each of the IF ENDIF blocks.

A Pitch for the TPK user program addressed to everybody :-)

I'm not running FBB at the moment. I'm linking to N5VGC in Dallas with  
TPK  
via Texnet. That path is really fast and N5VGC is a closest FBB system to  
Austin I  
can get into reliable. TPK is a lot like the CIS or AOL programs in that you  
do 99%  
of your messaging offline. TPK exchanges traffic with FBB using compressed  
forwarding and you can do YAPP-C file downloads with resume if/when you get  
disconnected much like ZMODEM does over LL's. One limitation that TPK has  
is you need to have a direct path or one digi required path to get the  
message listings  
automatically updated. Well, L2TPK111.ZIP has cured that problem for me. It  
is a  
program that uses TPK scripting to connect to a distant FBB and uses the LR  
-#  
command to retrieve the latest message listings. L2TPK then uses this list to  
update  
the listing that TPK uses to do it's "magic". No more sitting at the keyboard  
waiting  
for one or more messages to arrive over slow RF links. All that is done  
unattended.  
You can program TPK to tag for retrieval bulletins that match strings you  
have defined  
in the to, from, @, or title areas of the mesasges. It automatically handles  
7plus, too.  
You do not have to leave TPK booted any running all the time. This is a  
common  
misconception that I have often heard.

73,  
Wade

---

## 215. [BBSSIG:1330] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 21 Jul 1995 08:25:20 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507211325.IAA08800@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Kendall Mauldin <silhouet@thelair.zynet.com>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

On Wed, 19 Jul 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

> I think this is largely a matter of personal taste.

>  
> To me, having several authors who write different BBS software which all  
> covers the same BASIC FUNCTION, but which has been expressed in different  
> ways gives us much better software.  
>  
> It gives us diversity, new functions, new ideas about user interfaces, and  
> custom tailors ALL "flavors" to work best in thier intended environment.. RF.

True, but with diversity we have to accept incompatibility.

> To me TCP/IP is boring, stultified software which very little imagination  
> has been applied to. It works well in it's intended environment ( wireline )  
> but is not optimised for RF, mainly because the folks who care to DEVELOP  
> TCP/P don't appear to be "optimised for RF ". -- Witness the "connectivity"  
> buzzword, it's implications, and who employs it.

Boring? I don't think its original purpose was to entertain. I have  
seen TCP/IP system in this area pass information 70-80% faster then  
standard NET/ROM nodes with the same number of hops. However, TCP/IP can  
indeed be very slow sometimes on 1200 baud channels. I believe it  
belongs on the newer 9600 baud and 19200 baud data channels.

> As a HAM RADIO APPLICATION, most if not all of TCP/IP's progress over the  
> last five years has been directly related to emulating functions already  
> developed for AX25 BBS software, in it's diversity. - This is where \*NOS  
> "codesmiths" must look to for originality, and for functions which apply to  
> Ham Radio.

Yes, but most new BBS software emulates existing functions anyway doesn't  
it? Otherwise nothing would be compatible.

>  
> Again though; This is a matter of personal taste.. I prefer having a wide  
> selection of software which is optimised for the INTENDED PURPOSE.

There again is the tradeoff between personal taste and compatibility.  
However, if every BBS system was exactly the same, I would probably sell  
all my packet equipment. HI

-Kendall Mauldin -----silhouet@thelair.zynet.com-----  
KC5IZT @ KC5IZT.ALBQ.NM.USA.NOAM

## 216. [BBSSIG:1326] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 21 Jul 1995 08:27:13 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507211327.IAA08818@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From bbssig@tapr.org Fri Jul 21 04:15:59 1995  
Date: Thu, 20 Jul 1995 21:32:50 -0500  
Message-Id: <199507210206.VAA04237@zeus.ia.net>  
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
Precedence: bulk  
From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1326] Re: BBS Functions ?  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
Content-Length: 6211  
Content-Type: text  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

On Thu, 20 Jul 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

> >1) xNOS \*IS\* optimized for RF! Many of us know that this is JUST NOT  
> >true. If you have any facts to support this statement, please share them,  
> >because my own (and others) personal, daily experiences show this to be  
> >inaccurate.  
> >  
> Brian, you should really try to pay closer attention to earlier postings on  
> this subject. Begging questions on issues that have already been covered  
> rather well will not make those facts go away.  
> If there is some special reason why everything must be explained to you over  
> and over again, let us know. Otherwise, please try to pay closer attention



> to what has already been said several times over.

No, Charles. All that has been said is \*your\* opinion, without an substantiation. If you have any facts, please share them. Daily experiences are also welcome. Cop-outs of 'it's already been said' only show a willingness to avoid a dialog.

> >Can we please have some substantiation for this often repeated (by you)  
> >incorrect statement? As one of the \*few\* people who have been writing new  
> >code for the xNOS environment (and doing it for most of the last 5 years), I  
> >know this to be false. BUT, since you are the one making the claim, can  
> >we have \*some\* basis for this claim?  
> >  
> Observed reality should serve well here.

Fact are FAR beter.....

> Has the TCP/IP networking protocol  
> gone through momentous changes in the last five years?

Are you discussing TCP/IP or xNOS? Please make up your mind, as these are two entirely different issues.

> If not, WHAT ELSE has  
> been changed to any great degree in the various implementations of NOS?  
> Which software used on packet ORIGINALLY had those functions?

And where did those kinds of applications ORIGINALLY exist? Packet Radio BBSSs didn't come out of thin air.

As I wrote (which you didn't seem to read) these have been added for compatibility sake.

> >Much of the code has been adding capabilities, features, and GUI items,  
> >which are unique to xNOS, and also are highly optimized for slow/medium  
> >RF links.  
> >  
> GUI interfaces are certainly not unique to NOS, and they certainly are not  
> the most clever idea for use with slow/medium RF connections. They waste  
> spectrum to no constructive purpose, under those circumstances. I would't  
> brag about that idea, Brian.

Please, can we have facts rather than guesses! Since I have not SAID which kinds of GUI, how can you even HOPE to debate this! You have no idea what I am talking about.

> >In fact, a great deal (if not most) of the PBBSSs doing forwarding over the  
> >Internet are using BPQ and either MSYS or FBB. But, of course, if we  
> >mention Internet, we MUST attack xNOS, right! It's fashionable!  
> >  
> Your information on this is incorrect. The most typical setup is a AX25  
> BBS/NOS combo.

Once again you are just wrong!

> This is done because NOS is set up "perfectly" for use with  
> Internet.  
> Everyone else knows this, Brian, and I frankly doubt that you didn't already  
> know it as well. No need for "smokescreens" here on the BBSSIG.

Please substantiate your position with some facts!

> " Just the facts, Ma'am."

My point, exactly. I will supply you with more than enough facts for my side, as soon as you supply ANY facts to support your opinions.

> >The charter of this SIG says:  
> >  
> >> The BBSSIG mailing list charter is to provide a forum for the exchange of  
> >> information about packet radio bulletin board systems and the issues  
> >> surrounding their operation.  
> >  
> >A PBBS is \*any\* program which meets (or attempts to meet) the written and  
> >unwritten specifications of codesmiths and more importantly USERS, and  
> >provides an easy way to interchange information on the excellent PBBS

> >Message Forwarding system. Any xNOS that provides these capabilities is  
> >just as much a part of this charter as a software package whose SOLE  
> >purpose is as a PBB5.  
>  
> Following that "logic", the "PMS on a chip" which comes with most TNC's  
> these days would qualify all owners of TNC's as participants on the BBSSIG.  
>  
> I don't have any problem with anyone using NOS. I use it myself. What I  
> object to is the short-sighted and destructive practice of using wirelines  
> in preference to RF.

My message addressed nothing like this. If you wish to respond to my message, please respond to the content of it.

> Again, if you will read the postings on the subject, you'll have a better  
> idea of what's being discussed and can make more appropriate responses.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 217. pro/anti NOS

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <[barry@ia.net](mailto:barry@ia.net)>  
Date: Fri, 21 Jul 1995 08:40:09 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199507211340.IAA08884@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Folks,

The discussion of the merits of xNOS and TCP/IP are not proving to be very productive. We would have more facts in a discussion of Chevy vs. Ford!

Look at the 2 threads going on right now. One is xNOS with no good points being scored by either side. The other is a good question from a Sysop and a series of informative replies with detailed suggestions.

As moderator, I've cut a few people off and they're not happy. Neither am I. In what I believe to be the best interest of the BBSSIG, I have to declare the xNOS discussion closed. That does not mean valid technical questions will be ignored. General comments about xNOS being good/bad will simply be dropped in the bit bucket without comment.

I've also received personal msgs from people who are afraid to contribute as they see the SIG as being a forum for a few people. That is entirely opposite from the image I wish to present. I encourage lurkers to participate by asking good questions and, when possible, by providing good answers.

Feel free to send me personal mail on any issue and I'll be happy to answer.

73 Barry

---

## 218. [BBSSIG:1335] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <[barry@ia.net](mailto:barry@ia.net)>  
Date: Fri, 21 Jul 1995 17:51:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199507212251.RAA11765@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: [hank\\_oredson@MENTORG.COM](mailto:hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM) (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

On Jul 21, 8:47am, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> And where did those kinds of applications ORIGINALLY exist? Packet Radio

> BBSs didn't come out of thin air.

Historical note, for what it is worth: the original packet BBS command set was the consensus of the (about ten) people on packet in the Boston area in late '83 early '84. It was first on air the first week of February 1984 (on my Birthday, actually). The command set changed drastically for a few months, as the users played with different ways of accessing a simple email database. Thus we got the R, S, and L commands. The K command came a month later when my floppy disk filled up.

The forwarding protocol came a little later, about June of 1984, when K1BC put the second "RLI MailBox" on air.

The original BBS took many of it's ideas from Ward Christiansen's MODEM and MODEM7 LL BBS programs.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

## 219. [BBSSIG:1337] Re: FBB Forwarding & TPK "pitch" (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 21 Jul 1995 19:43:57 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507220043.TAA12365@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: FBB Forwarding & TPK "pitch"

>  
> If your using BPQ and have more than one port you might be able to  
>"fool"  
>FBB into doing this. I don't have this fully worked out in my mind. But, here  
>goes...  
>You setup PORT.SYS so port 1 or A will forward say every ten minutes. Port  
>2 or B is setup for every hour. Now, you edit your forwarding files to have  
>two  
>forward blocks for each bbs. One with the real callsign and the other could  
>use  
>an alias of the bbs. eg. N5IST and ISTBBS. In the N5VGC file you define port  
>A with a "P A", I think. You connect to the BPQ switch and use C NODE where  
>BPQ will go out the correct port to that node regardless of the port you  
>connected

Thanks again Wade for that info. In an earlier posting I made mention of a trick I suggested to BBS fwding @WW by creating a dummy callsign and a new fwd block in a similar manner. The only problem with these ideas is that I fwd to at least 8 other BBS regularly and if I were apply some of these tricks to all 8 then it would be a very complicated fwding script. Anyway, always appreciate new ideas, tricks & tips.

[snip]  
>One limitation that TPK has  
>is you need to have a direct path or one digi required path to get the  
>message listings  
>automatically updated. Well, L2TPK111.ZIP has cured that problem for me. It  
>is a program that uses TPK scripting to connect to a distant FBB and uses  
>the LR-#  
>command to retrieve the latest message listings. L2TPK then uses this list to  
>update the listing that TPK uses to do it's "magic". No more sitting at the  
>keyboard waiting  
[snip]

I havn't seen that program but here I've used MAKELIST with great success to capture the Remote BBS message lists for use as a picklist for TPK. Some BBS do use the TPK beacons but I serve 3 LANs and it would mean a LOT of digipeated beacons. It might be worth it if there were a lot of stations using TPK but hard to justify for just a few, and then of course for the TPK beacons to be usefull at all the users have to leave their radios/tncs on ALL the time.(Electricity is not cheap up here, or at least thats a good excuse)

On the other hand I seem some areas where there are a lot of USERS running BBS programs and getting the main BBS Sysop to fwd them bulletins (by the truck-load). I think that's a terrible waste of Network time and wish there were more (and better) client-server (user-BBS) software for the users who want more automated information.

73 - Ron

---

## 220. [BBSSIG:1339] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 23 Jul 1995 20:11:45 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507240111.UAA28248@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>  
> >Well - I answered the question, but it got me to thinking of asking folks on  
> >here. What would the perfect BBS system do ? Function wise.  
> >  
> >Greg  
> >  
> >I'd like to see a system of "plug-in" modules, so the SYSOP could "roll his  
> >own" system, only incorporating the functions needed at his station, and  
> >avoiding functions which are not needed or wanted.  
> >  
> >I'm not much of a programmer, so bear with me, please...  
> >  
> >I'd start off with a standardized "main program" which didn't do much except  
> >allow you to "plug in" hardware support modules and Network Software modules  
> >on one "end", and applications on the other. Keep this part pretty well  
> >standardized, but let the sky be the limit on the plug-ins. If you have a  
> >bigger/faster computer, you can "plug in" more applications at one time. I  
> >would also want to be able to "route" specific applications to specific  
> >hardware/netware, and be able to "mix 'n match" them as desired.

Charles, etc,

I may disagree with you on the RF issue - but this posting of yours should be framed and hung on the wall! You had an excellent description of how a BBS should be done. That's very much like the door concept with the Landline bbs's. It's fairly easy and commonplace to add functionality to them.

One of the major road-blocks to useful packet applications has been the lack of a means for a sysop or end user to tie into and USE the packet system. \*NOS comes close to fitting your description of a modular system only it's set up and locked at compile time and adding functionality is difficult at best. I believe the FBB and AA4RE bbs's allow adding modules but not in a easy manner for non-programmers.

I would like to see, and will be working on, adding some sort of higher level script language for NOS to allow sysops/users the ability to easily code new functionality into a system. I'm imagining something that would allow anything from multi-user games to satellite trackers to checking the temperature of the beer in Brian's fridge.

What language would be best for this?

Forth? - It's ideal for the application but cryptic to program in and could be dangerous for the system without the proper safeguards.

PERL? - Lots of power but too big?

LISP? - Powerful but not easy to use.

BASIC? - Hmmm. Maybe..

Tiny-C interpreter?

How about a RPN calculator language like the HP palm tops use? That's Forth'ish but at a little higher level.

Others? Suggestions?

I realize this can probably be done now with a Linux box. But my goal is to stretch out the life of the zillions of cheap DOS systems that are

out there now.

> 73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

--

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

---

## 221. [BBSSIG:1340] Re: FBB Forwarding & TPK "pitch" (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 23 Jul 1995 20:13:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507240113.UAA28261@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: FBB Forwarding & TPK "pitch"

>The only problem with these ideas is that I fwd to at least 8 other BBS  
>regularly and if I were apply some of these tricks to all 8 then it would be  
>a very complicated fwding script.  
>Anyway, always appreciate new ideas, tricks & tips.

I was wondering.. Do you put all forwarding info in FORWARD.SYS, or use  
pointers there to indicate seperate FWD files for each station, which in  
turn have pointers to DIS files to cover different distributions?

I break it all up like that, and it makes it easy to make changes. If you  
aren't doing this and am interested, I'd be glad to give more detailed info.

73 DE Charles Brabham Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com

Program complexity grows until it exceeds the capabilities of the programmer  
who must maintain it.

---

## 222. [BBSSIG:1341] Re: FBB & TPK (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 23 Jul 1995 20:13:34 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507240113.UAA28270@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: N5IST@aol.com  
Subject: Re: FBB & TPK

In a message dated 95-07-21 20:59:46 EDT, Ron write:

N5IST writes:

>>One limitation that TPK has  
>>is you need to have a direct path or one digi required path to get the  
message listings  
>>automatically updated. Well, L2TPK111.ZIP has cured that problem for me. It  
>>is a program that uses TPK scripting to connect to a distant FBB and uses  
the LR-#  
>>command to retrieve the latest message listings. L2TPK then uses this list  
to  
>>update the listing that TPK uses to do it's "magic". No more sitting at the  
keyboard  
>>waiting  
>[snip]

VE1AIC writes:

>I havn't seen that program but here I've used MAKELIST with great success  
>to capture the Remote BBS message lists for use as a picklist for TPK.  
>Some BBS do use the TPK beacons but I serve 3 LANs and it would mean  
>a LOT of digipeated beacons. It might be worth it if there were a lot of  
>stations using TPK but hard to justify for just a few, and then of course  
>for the TPK beacons to be usefull at all the users have to leave their  
>radios/tncs on ALL the time.(Electricity is not cheap up here, or at least  
>thats a good excuse)

N5IST writes:

L2TPK11.ZIP does away with the beacon reception requirement. A TPK script

is used to connect to a FBB bbs and use LR -# to get the new message listing. This is how I get my listing from N5VGC over the Texnet backbone network. There is no need to leave TPK running. But, even without L2TPK there is no need to leave TPK running because it will let FBB know if it needs to catch up on the listings. FBB will repeat the listings from where TPK indicates it needs the repeats.

VE1AIC writes:

>On the other hand I seem some areas where there are a lot of USERS  
>running BBS programs and getting the main BBS Sysop to fwd them  
>bulletins (by the truck-load). I think that's a terrible waste of Network  
>time and wish there were more (and better) client-server (user-BBS)  
>software for the users who want more automated information.

N5IST writes:

TPK retrieves only those messages the user is interested in. This is done either by clicking on each message in the listing or configuring TPK to look for a string match in any part of the message header. eg. A search for "2Line" in the title would get you the 2line kep elements that are sent about once a week.

73,  
Wade

---

## 223. [BBSSIG:1345] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 24 Jul 1995 09:05:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507241405.JAA05346@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@tntech.edu>  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>> I'd start off with a standardized "main program" which didn't do much except  
>> allow you to "plug in" hardware support modules and Network Software modules  
>> on one "end", and applications on the other.

> One of the major road-blocks to useful packet applications has been the  
> lack of a means for a sysop or end user to tie into and USE the packet  
> system. \*NOS comes close to fitting your description of a modular system  
> only it's set up and locked at compile time and adding functionality is  
> difficult at best. I believe the FBB and AA4RE bbs's allow adding modules  
> but not in a easy manner for non-programmers.

Why not take advantage of the networking capabilities built into most current operating systems: the TCP/IP stack. It is built into the MacOS, WindowsForWorkgroups, Windows95, OS/2, NetWare, every variant of UNIX, and is available from several sources for DOS and Windows. With the possible exception of the DOS-based stacks, the interface is standardized and operation is plug-and-play. There are certainly many applications available and the number is steadily increasing. Specialized ham radio applications, e.g. DX cluster and APRS, would not be difficult to adapt.

IP does work on ham radio (no flames, please!) but as the built-in networking is optimized for more reliable and faster links some modifications may need to be made. Driver software will also need to be written to drive various packet radio interfaces. It will take some work to do this but the new capabilities that it will open up for the average ham will make it worth it.

Jeff, k9ja

+-+

|                    |  |                                    |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Jeffrey Austen     |  | Tennessee Technological University |
| jra1854@tntech.edu |  | Box 5004                           |
| (615) 372-3485     |  | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.  |

---

## 224. [BBSSIG:1346] Re: FBB Forwarding & TPK "pitch" (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 24 Jul 1995 09:06:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507241406.JAA05357@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Subject: Re: FBB Forwarding & TPK "pitch"

Charles, N5PVL wrote:

>I was wondering.. Do you put all forwarding info in FORWARD.SYS, or use  
pointers there to indicate separate  
FWD files for each station, which in turn have pointers  
to DIS files to cover different distributions?

>

>I break it all up like that, and it makes it easy to make changes. If you  
aren't doing this and am interested, I'd be glad to give more detailed info.

I'm the sysop of the W6PW BBS here in San Francisco and have been running  
FBB for a little over two years now. I  
just joined the BBSSIG list, so I hope this hasn't already been discussed.

I tried using Include files in my FORWARD.SYS and had all kinds of problems  
getting it to work. I kept getting line errors when the program scanned the  
file. Some of the files would work, but most, no matter what I did, would  
cause errors. As a result, I have all of my forwarding scripted in one very  
long file.

I'd love to get it broken up into parts, because it's too large for the  
ALT-F5 editor. I have to make changes using an outboard word processor and  
then save the file back in  
FBB\SYSTEM\.. Do any of you have any ideas as to what I could look for as  
the source of the errors when using the Include files?

Thanks.

73, Larry Kenney, WB9LOZ @ W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
lkenney@slip.net

---

## 225. [BBSSIG:1349] Re: BBS Functions ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 24 Jul 1995 22:05:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507250305.WAA10411@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: BBS Functions ?

>> I'd like to see a system of "plug-in" modules, so the SYSOP could "roll his  
>> own" system, only incorporating the functions needed at his station, and  
>> avoiding functions which are not needed or wanted.

>>

>> I'm not much of a programmer, so bear with me, please...

>>

>> I'd start off with a standardized "main program" which didn't do much except  
>> allow you to "plug in" hardware support modules and Network Software modules  
>> on one "end", and applications on the other. Keep this part pretty well  
>> standardized, but let the sky be the limit on the plug-ins. If you have a  
>> bigger/faster computer, you can "plug in" more applications at one time. I  
>> would also want to be able to "route" specific applications to specific  
>> hardware/netware, and be able to "mix 'n match" them as desired.

>

>Charles, etc,

>

>I may disagree with you on the RF issue - but this posting of yours should  
>be framed and hung on the wall! You had an excellent description of how  
>a BBS should be done. That's very much like the door concept with the Landline  
>bbs's. It's fairly easy and commonplace to add functionality to them.

>

Thanks, Bill! I use the "thousand monkees with typewriters" system.. I type  
so much that periodically I can't help ending up saying something which  
makes sense..

The idea for the program was inspired by a course on structured programming  
I took long ago, along with frustration generated by having to try to run  
several programs at once time, in my slow computers.

>One of the major road-blocks to useful packet applications has been the lack of  
>a means for a sysop or end user to tie into and USE the packet system. \*NOS  
>comes close to fitting your description of a modular system only it's set  
up and

>locked at compile time and adding functionality is difficult at best. I  
>believe the FBB and AA4RE bbs's allow adding modules but not in a easy  
>manner for non-programmers.

>

I nice, user-friendly install program which includes a mini-compiler oughta

fix that for NOS.

There's an amazing number of servers for FBB, but no way to remove stuff you don't use from the code. ( Users here never use the SAT server in FBB, or the User Docs server, so they're just a drag on my system and hard-drive. )

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 226. [BBSSIG:1350] BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 24 Jul 1995 22:08:10 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507250308.WAA10418@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

OK, here's my wish for packet BBSs: A client/server protocol to permit development of client-side user software.

Here's what I imagine as an easy way to do this...

1: Add a standard format for complete lists, including the message BID. This command should accept as a parameter the BID of the message preceeding the one with which to begin the list. (In this way the client can keep track of the last message seen from a particular system.)

2: Add a command by which messages can be requested by BID.

3: Implement both commands with optional (or, perhaps required) compression.

[From what I've seen, #1 could be similar to the long format list available from KA2BQE's PRMBS. (I don't know if others offer this.)]

Client software could connect (manually triggered or on a time schedule) to the server BBS, send all outbound messages, get a list of everything new since last time, get all new personal messages for the user, pares the list of new messages and request any which meet the user's pre-defined criteria (@AMSAT, TO:ICOM, Subj:Hamfest, etc.), and disconnect.

How the user interacts with the client software is up to the various authors. (Personally, I'd like something like Eudora, with the ability to "Tag" which messages to download from the list of new messages on the server.)

Comments?

73, Andy

--

\_\_\_\_\_  
| Tech Producer/Editor Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |  
| WCB5-TV Channel 2 News http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |  
| New York, NY USA Writing for my self, not my employer! |

---

## 227. Newsgroups

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 24 Jul 1995 22:19:34 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507250319.WAA10492@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'm not sure when this thread went by, but we've had a brief discussion of prompting users when they enter a T msg. The question was whether to make the user "fill in the blanks."

It turns out that some packet terminal programs have this facility. Learning the correct format isn't that difficult and the problem was primarily related to occasional usrs sneding a T.

One of todays posts mentioned searching bltns by TO and SUBJ. Combined with a comment in the past few weeks of problems with TO=ALL, how about prompting the user to select options from a list?

I'll go into the details of this in a second msg, but let me continue to justify this suggestion.



Facts:

1. Each bltn gets entered once at one specific BBS.
2. Each bltn gets LISTed a zillion times all over the world.
3. Each bltn gets read 0 or more times.
4. Not all users understand local and regional distribution options.

So, it seems to me that a little extra effort when entering a msg could have a large benefit to others who will eventually LIST and READ the bltn.

Barry

---

## 228. Newsgroups 2

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 24 Jul 1995 22:32:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507250332.WAA10587@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

So when a user wants to send a bltn:

1. Prompt him to enter a logical T0 field rather than ALL.  
List a few (maybe 10 or 20 broad topics).
2. Prompt with distribution options and a few words encouraging the value of local and regional coverage.
3. At both step 1 and 2, offer an opportunity to abort and tell user where to get more detailed help.

Now, extrapolating this philosophy, how about letting the user choose from a list of STANDARD hierarchical topics. This could be placed in either the SUBJ field or in an X header line in the body of the msg. (I mean real X header).

In this case, T0 is meaningless so maybe we do away with it?

Well, if you're still with me and haven't already hit the REPLY key, the big benefit of all this terrible change is really for LISTing.

---

Now all of you people who send dozens of comments, send just 1 and only 1. Let's see if we get comments from 10 people who have never PARTICIPATED before.

73 Barry

---

## 229. [BBSSIG:1355] Re: Newsgroups 2 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 25 Jul 1995 08:46:19 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507251346.IAA14625@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Subject: Re: Newsgroups 2

The idea of eliminating T0 = ALL and limiting the T0 field to a few topics sounds like a fantastic plan! As things presently exist, the LC command is almost useless. I just checked my BBS (W6PW) and there are 234 different T0 "categories" presently shown, and ALL had the largest number of messages of any category with 177.

When you receive 250 to 300 bulletins a day, there really needs to be some way for the user to separate the interesting topics from the rest. Right now the LC command is the only way to do that, but with the large number of categories that we have that method doesn't offer much help. A complete listing of the bulletins is the only way to really see what's available.

I like Barry's ideas here:

- >1. Prompt him to enter a logical T0 field rather than ALL.  
>List a few (maybe 10 or 20 broad topics).  
>
- >2. Prompt with distribution options and a few words encouraging  
> the value of local and regional coverage.  
>
- >3. At both step 1 and 2, offer an opportunity to abort and tell

> user where to get more detailed help.

Those ideas would solve a lot of problems. I don't think we need to go as far as Barry suggests in the following though:

>Now, extrapolating this philosophy, how about letting the user  
>chose from a list of STANDARD hierarchical topics. This could be  
>placed in either the SUBJ field or in an X header line in the body  
>of the msg. (I mean real X header).

Why not just expand on Barry's #1 idea and make the list that the user chooses from be a list of STANDARD topics that then becomes the TO field? The user can then expand on the topic in the SUBJECT field. This would make the TO/Category list no larger than the list of standard topics. The LC command would then be much more useful since there wouldn't be such a large list of categories. A user could then list the messages in the topics he finds of interest and get the details of each message in the SUBJECT.

73. Larry, WB9LOZ @ W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.NOAM  
(lkenney@slip.net)

Larry Kenney (lkenney@slip.net)  
Ham packet: WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM

---

## 230. [BBSSIG:1359] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 25 Jul 1995 19:14:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507260014.TAA19421@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

On Jul 24, 10:27pm, Andrew Funk wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1352] BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol  
> OK, here's my wish for packet BBSs: A client/server protocol to permit  
> development of client-side user software.  
>  
> Here's what I imagine as an easy way to do this...  
>  
> 1: Add a standard format for complete lists, including the message BID.  
> This command should accept as a parameter the BID of the message preceeding  
> the one with which to begin the list. (In this way the client can keep  
> track of the last message seen from a particular system.)

I think you mean MID here ... the BID is a user or system assigned identifier which might be anything. The MID is a unique identifier of any particular message (originating BBS callsign and msg #).

> 2: Add a command by which messages can be requested by BID.

Perhaps both BID and MID should be supported:

"I want ORBS-237.M"  
vs.  
"I want 12345@W0RLI"

>  
> 3: Implement both commands with optional (or, perhaps required)  
> compression.

Make it optional.

>  
>  
> [From what I've seen, #1 could be similar to the long format list available  
> from KA2BQE's PRMBS. (I don't know if others offer this.)]

RLI, MSYS, GFE do, RLI did it first, and worked with BQE to define and document the protocol.

> Client software could connect (manually triggered or on a time schedule) to  
> the server BBS, send all outbound messages, get a list of everything new  
> since last time, get all new personal messages for the user, pares the list  
> of new messages and request any which meet the user's pre-defined criteria  
> (@AMSAT, TO:ICOM, Subj:Hamfest, etc.), and disconnect.

This is very close to the X forwarding protocol, with the easy to do addition of "IWANT" lists. We would need to define the protocol extension, which would not be difficult.

> How the user interacts with the client software is up to the various  
> authors. (Personally, I'd like something like Eudora, with the ability to  
> "Tag" which messages to download from the list of new messages on the  
server.)

Anyone sign up to write the client side of this?  
I'd do the server side so there was something to test against.  
Suspect Brian would also do the server side.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

## 231. [BBSSIG:1358] Re: A new BBS program (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 25 Jul 1995 19:31:13 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507260031.TAA19518@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>  
Subject: Re: A new BBS program

Ref: Your note of Wed, 19 Jul 1995 22:10:47 -0500

In <199507182239.RAA14600@zeus.ia.net> Charles Brabham writes:  
>>A lot of these ideas were kicked around at Dayton this year. At that  
>>meeting, the consensus seemed to be that there should be little (if  
>>any) effort to improve the BBS user interface.  
>>  
>>The "next generation" BBS program would have a simple interface like we  
>>have now but be much more enabled for a client/server interface. It  
>>was felt that the majority of the work should be in building an GUI  
>>type front end program.  
>>  
>>Roy  
>>  
>  
>Roy, I had trouble following you. ( Sorry! ) I understood part of what you  
>were saying, and was interested it what I "thought" I heard..  
>  
>Could you expand on this, please?  
>  
>  
>73 DE Charles Brabham    Packet Radio : N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
>                                            Internet : n5pvl@texoma.com  
>  
>

The idea is that a character based interface is outdated. How many  
access the Internet by logging onto our ISP's UNIX system and using  
PINE versus people using something like PPP and then having the mail  
system of their choice that has a GUI (Example: Eudora).

It is the latter that we want to move to in packet BBS technology.  
The next generation "Packet BBS" should have forwarding, a  
client-server interface, and a simple character based terminal type  
interface similar to what we have now.

Lets stop using our limited resources to enhance an outmoded character  
based interface.

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

---

## 232. [BBSSIG:1367] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 25 Jul 1995 20:42:05 -0500 (CDT)

To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507260142.UAA19786@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: N5IST@aol.com  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

In a message dated 95-07-25 03:28:42 EDT, kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk) writes:

>OK, here's my wish for packet BBSs: A client/server protocol to permit  
>development of client-side user software.  
>  
>Here's what I imagine as an easy way to do this...  
>  
>1:       Add a standard format for complete lists, including the message BID.  
>This command should accept as a parameter the BID of the message preceeding  
>the one with which to begin the list. (In this way the client can keep  
>track of the last message seen from a particular system.)  
>  
>2:       Add a command by which messages can be requested by BID.  
>  
>3:       Implement both commands with optional (or, perhaps required)  
>compression.  
>  
>  
>[From what I've seen, #1 could be similar to the long format list available  
>from KA2BQE's PRMBS. (I don't know if others offer this.)]  
>  
>Client software could connect (manually triggered or on a time schedule) to  
>the server BBS, send all outbound messages, get a list of everything new  
>since last time, get all new personal messages for the user, pares the list  
>of new messages and request any which meet the user's pre-defined criteria  
>(@AMSAT, TO:ICOM, Subj:Hamfest, etc.), and disconnect.  
>  
>How the user interacts with the client software is up to the various  
>authors. (Personally, I'd like something like Eudora, with the ability to  
>"Tag" which messages to download from the list of new messages on the  
>server.)  
>  
>Comments?  
>  
>73, Andy

Hi Andy:  
TPK has all of these features except messages are requested by message  
number  
instead of the bid. TPK was written to interface with FBB bbs systems. It  
works  
quite well. Questions on it are welcome.  
73,  
Wade

---

### 233. [BBSSIG:1369] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 14:03:07 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507261903.OAA28608@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

On Tue, 25 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

snip.....

> > How the user interacts with the client software is up to the various  
> > authors. (Personally, I'd like something like Eudora, with the ability to  
> > "Tag" which messages to download from the list of new messages on the  
> server.)  
>  
> Anyone sign up to write the client side of this?  
> I'd do the server side so there was something to test against.  
> Suspect Brian would also do the server side.

>  
> ... Hank  
>

Hank, I am a bit hazy on what your proposing here. I have a file request server in FBB and I know you and AA4RE have it too. I use it to allow users to Request radio modification files. It works like this: User sends a msg to reqfile@k5di with the title the full address of the file. Anything else is ignored by the server.

The server uses the From: packet address and makes a msg back to the requester. So Hank, what is the new stuff?

73, de karl, k5di

>  
>  
> --  
>  
> Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
> Internet        : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com        "Parts 'R Us!"  
> Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM  
>  
>

---

## 234. [BBSSIG:1370] Re: Newsgroups 2 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 14:05:01 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507261905.OAA28625@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Newsgroups 2

According to Barry...

>  
>So when a user wants to send a bltn:  
>  
>1. Prompt him to enter a logical TO field rather than ALL.  
>List a few (maybe 10 or 20 broad topics).  
>

Actually, ALL is a quite logical TO: field.. There's no doubt that it's terribly over-used, but trying to get away from it entirely will cause more confusion than it avoids.  
The idea of prompting the user, giving a short list of topics is a good one. Many hams use ALL because they lack imagination. Having a list in front of them could make a difference, helping cut down on the over-use of ALL. For those who's needs are not covered by the short listing, an option to view all of the topics currently on the board would again help get folks past the habit of using ALL for everything.

>2. Prompt with distribution options and a few words encouraging  
> the value of local and regional coverage.

Amen!

>3. At both step 1 and 2, offer an opportunity to abort and tell  
> user where to get more detailed help.

Again, AMEN! A little extra time and space expended during the bulletin addressing process like this could save much MORE time and space across the entire network.

>Now, extrapolating this philosophy, how about letting the user  
>chose from a list of STANDARD hierarchical topics. This could be  
>placed in either the SUBJ field or in an X header line in the body  
>of the msg. (I mean real X header).

I don't think this would fly.. It would be terribly easy to get around.  
For example: If ALL wasn't on the list, some "approved" topic would

shortly take ALL's place, performing the same function. Let's assume that INFO was on the "approved" list. A simple agreement among packet ops to treat "INFO" as "ALL" would almost certainly be the end result.

Who would spread such an idea around? I would, if no-one else did.

( I doubt I'd have to, though.. Hams generally don't respond well to being told what they can and can't do, except possibly by the FCC.)

>Well, if you're still with me and haven't already hit the REPLY key,  
>the big benefit of all this terrible change is really for LISTing.

LISTING:

As I see it, the biggest problem facing hams who want to be more specific in identifying the content of thier messages is the rather short message titles. In listing messages, there's all kinds of info which hardly anyone ever looks at ( Time, date, ect.. ) and eliminating some of the deadwood in the listing would allow another ten characters or so for the title. There are disadvantages to this, to be sure, but I believe the added room for message description would more than make up for them. The most likely overall effect would be smaller message lists, since not everybody would use all 40+ spaces in the new TITLE field.

Any time we come up with a grand plan for reducing options for packet operators, we should keep in mind that not all BBS authors will go along with the gag. Those who do will see thier software decline in popularity. Those who don't will take up the slack.

You can educate packet ops, or you can advise them of available options and expect to see an improvement in builletin addressing. Attempts to LIMIT thier options will just cause more difficulties than it eliminates.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

---

## 235. [BBSSIG:1371] FBB Problem (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 14:05:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507261905.OAA28636@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: FBB Problem

Every time I add a new forwarding partner I must make/modify several files. In particular I change the user file by making the new call a BBS. Then with my setup I go to the \FWD directory and using my trusty ascii editor load a working forward script. I save it as the new forward script and use "replace" to change the call from w5xyz to kc5xyz in all places. This works great!

Then I drop back to the \SYSTEM directory and modify 2 files that are bbs.sys and forward.sys. To forward.sys I add a line that points to the new script. In the bbs.sys file I carefully put the new call kc5xyz in the next available slot. Save the files and back to the bbs.

Every time the same thing! When I get back to the BBS I log on and do a fv that tells FBB files have been changed. It always says "OK". And then I start hearing beeps and a sign is flashed in my face that says " Unkown Call in BBS.SYS". When I try to do a test forward it doesn't work and the darn beeping gets on my nerves!

The problem is this: If the callsign is in caps in bbs.sys then it MUST be in caps in forward.sys. I tested last night and it's just a code problem. If John-Paul would rewrite his program to convert ALL the file names it reads to lower case, then the problem would go away.

A solution for now is to simply write both bbs.sys and forward.sys in either lower or upper case. DO NOT MIX UPPER AND LOWER!

---

## 236. Re: [BBSSIG:1373] Re: Newsgroups 2

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 16:58:19 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507262158.QAA00185@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Charles wrote:

> According to Barry...  
> >  
> > So when a user wants to send a bltn:  
> >  
> > 1. Prompt him to enter a logical T0 field rather than ALL.  
> > List a few (maybe 10 or 20 broad topics).  
> >  
> Actually, ALL is a quite logical T0: field.. There's no doubt that it's  
> terribly over-used, but trying to get away from it entirely will cause more  
> confusion than it avoids.

In practice, T0 is used on conjunction with the SUBJ field. It is  
easy to sort by categories of T0 rather than SUBJ.

If T0=ALL, there is no information content in the T0 field. The user  
now has to look through all the SUBJs to determine if the bltn is  
about Guns owners or a TNC for sale.

So if a user wants to enter a bltn selling a Yeasue FT-101 he could  
select something like: SALE.HF.YAESU

I would suggest that the SALE and HF are STANDARDized and the YAESU  
is free form. Users who would LIST this bltn might be shown as  
SALE.HF as a category to select.

T0 being a callsign field, is not that valuable for bltns. Lets  
do away with T0 for bltns, use a X header line with categories.

73 Barry

---

## 237. [BBSSIG:1375] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 16:58:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507262158.QAA00192@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

On Jul 26, 2:14pm, Karl F. Larsen wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1372] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol  
> On Tue, 25 Jul 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:  
>  
>  
> snip.....  
>  
>  
>  
> > > How the user interacts with the client software is up to the various  
> > > authors. (Personally, I'd like something like Eudora, with the ability to  
> > > "Tag" which messages to download from the list of new messages on the  
> > > server.)  
> >  
> > Anyone sign up to write the client side of this?  
> > I'd do the server side so there was something to test against.  
> > Suspect Brian would also do the server side.  
> >  
> > ... Hank  
> >  
> >  
> Hank, I am a bit hazy on what your proposing here. I have a file  
> request server in FBB and I know you and AA4RE have it too. I use it to  
> allow users to Request radio modification files. It works like this: User  
> sends a msg to reqfile@k5di with the title the full address of the file.  
> Anything else is ignored by the server.  
>

> The server uses the From: packet address and makes a msg back to  
> the requester. So Hank, what is the new stuff?

Sorry, didn't think I was proposing anything (other than spending  
some coding time once someone came up with a spec).

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

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## 238. [BBSSIG:1376] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 16:59:09 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507262159.QAA00200@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

At 07:25 PM 7/25/95 -0500, you wrote:  
>On Jul 24, 10:27pm, Andrew Funk wrote:  
>> 1: Add a standard format for complete lists, including the message BID.  
>> This command should accept as a parameter the BID of the message preceeding  
>> the one with which to begin the list. (In this way the client can keep  
>> track of the last message seen from a particular system.)  
>  
>I think you mean MID here ... the BID is a user or system assigned  
>identifier which might be anything. The MID is a unique identifier  
>of any particular message (originating BBS callsign and msg #).

You're exactly right. Thanks.

>  
>> 2: Add a command by which messages can be requested by BID.  
>  
>Perhaps both BID and MID should be supported:  
>  
>"I want ORBS-237.M"  
>vs.  
>"I want 12345@W0RLI"  
>

Yes... My intention is that there be a way to uniquely ID a particular  
message/bulletin and request it be sent.

>This is very close to the X forwarding protocol, with the easy to do  
>addition of "IWANT" lists. We would need to define the protocol  
>extension, which would not be difficult.

Exactly what I was thinking!

>  
>> How the user interacts with the client software is up to the various  
>> authors. (Personally, I'd like something like Eudora, with the ability to  
>> "Tag" which messages to download from the list of new messages on the  
>server.)  
>  
>Anyone sign up to write the client side of this?  
>I'd do the server side so there was something to test against.  
>Suspect Brian would also do the server side.

I wish I had the expertise and time.

Perhaps it'd be an easier project if someone started with BBS source code,  
so the forwarding/compression "engine" was already written.



Another possibility would be for BBSs to utilize this as well. If an area has several BBSs, especially if they forward in a hub-spoke fashion, the hub system could send only the list data for rarely read bulletins to the spoke BBSs. If a user tried to read the message the BBS could respond with a message stating that the particular bulletin is not immediately available but will be retrieved and sent to the requesting user as a personal message. Then the spoke BBS could request the bulletin from the hub system, and upon arrival make it available to any others requesting the bulletin and also create a personal copy for the requesting user.

I see this as being very useful in areas such as NY/NJ where we have loads of BBSs and to some extent a hub-spoke forwarding arrangement.

73, Andy

--

\_\_\_\_\_  
| Tech Producer/Editor                      Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |  
| WCBS-TV Channel 2 News                      http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |  
| New York, NY USA                      Writing for my self, not my employer! |

---

### 239. [BBSSIG:1377] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 16:59:34 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507262159.QAA00210@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

At 08:51 PM 7/25/95 -0500, you wrote:  
>In a message dated 95-07-25 03:28:42 EDT, kb7uv@panix.com (Andrew Funk)  
>writes:  
>  
>>OK, here's my wish for packet BBSs: A client/server protocol to permit  
>>development of client-side user software.

[snip!]

To which Wade, N5IST@aol.com replied:

> TPK has all of these features accept messages are requested by message  
>number  
>instead of the bid. TPK was written to interface with FBB bbs systems. It  
>works  
>quite well. Questions on it are welcome.

That's all well and good, but it is a single program, and proprietary to FBB.

I am suggesting an addition to the BBS Protocol Spec to permit open development of client-side software.

Perhaps the mechanism used by FBB/TPK could be used as a model for an open protocol spec, perhaps not. Could you describe the mechanism used by TPK/FBB to accomplish what I described?

Thanks,

Andy

--

\_\_\_\_\_  
| Tech Producer/Editor                      Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |  
| WCBS-TV Channel 2 News                      http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |  
| New York, NY USA                      Writing for my self, not my employer! |

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### 240. [BBSSIG:1378] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 17:00:18 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507262200.RAA00222@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

At 07:25 PM 7/25/95 -0500, you wrote:  
>On Jul 24, 10:27pm, Andrew Funk wrote:  
>> 1: Add a standard format for complete lists, including the message BID.

>> This command should accept as a parameter the BID of the message preceeding  
>> the one with which to begin the list. (In this way the client can keep  
>> track of the last message seen from a particular system.)  
>  
>I think you mean MID here ... the BID is a user or system assigned  
>identifier which might be anything. The MID is a unique identifier  
>of any particular message (originating BBS callsign and msg #).

You're exactly right. Thanks.

>  
>> 2:       Add a command by which messages can be requested by BID.  
>  
>Perhaps both BID and MID should be supported:  
>  
>"I want ORBS-237.M"  
>vs.  
>"I want 12345@WORLDI"  
>

Yes... My intention is that there be a way to uniquely ID a particular  
message/bulletin and request it be sent.

>This is very close to the X forwarding protocol, with the easy to do  
>addition of "IWANT" lists. We would need to define the protocol  
>extension, which would not be difficult.

Exactly what I was thinking!

>  
>> How the user interacts with the client software is up to the various  
>> authors. (Personally, I'd like something like Eudora, with the ability to  
>> "Tag" which messages to download from the list of new messages on the  
>server.)  
>  
>Anyone sign up to write the client side of this?  
>I'd do the server side so there was something to test against.  
>Suspect Brian would also do the server side.

I wish I had the expertise and time.

Perhaps it'd be an easier project if someone started with BBS source code,  
so the forwarding/compression "engine" was already written.

Another possibility would be for BBSs to utilize this as well. If an area  
has several BBSs, especially if they forward in a hub-spoke fashion, the hub  
system could send only the list data for rarely read bulletins to the spoke  
BBSs. If a user tried to read the message the BBS could respond with a  
message stating that the particular bulletin is not immediately available  
but will be retrieved and sent to the requesting user as a personal message.  
Then the spoke BBS could request the bulletin from the hub system, and upon  
arrival make it available to any others requesting the bulletin and also  
create a personal copy for the requesting user.

I see this as being very useful in areas such as NY/NJ where we have loads  
of BBSs and to some extent a hub-spoke forwarding arrangement.

73, Andy

--

\_\_\_\_\_  
| Tech Producer/Editor                   Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |  
| WCBS-TV Channel 2 News               http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |  
| New York, NY USA                      Writing for my self, not my employer! |

## 241. [BBSSIG:1379] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 17:00:36 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507262200.RAA00231@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

At 02:15 PM 7/26/95 -0500, karl, k5di wrote:

> Hank, I am a bit hazy on what your proposing here. I have a file  
>request server in FBB and I know you and AA4RE have it too. I use it to  
>allow users to Request radio modification files. It works like this: User  
>sends a msg to reqfile@k5di with the title the full address of the file.  
>Anything else is ignored by the server.  
>  
> The server uses the From: packet address and makes a msg back to  
>the requester. So Hank, what is the new stuff?

My proposal, which Hank responded to, is for the ability to request specific messages and bulletins, not files.

This would permit intelligent user software to function with a "server" BBS as a client program.

And my idea is for this to be an addition to the BBS Protocol Specification, so any client user program written to this spec will function with any BBS which has implemented the spec.

73, Andy

--

\_\_\_\_\_  
| Tech Producer/Editor Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |  
| WCBS-TV Channel 2 News http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |  
| New York, NY USA Writing for my self, not my employer! |

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## 242. [BBSSIG:1386] Re: Newsgroups 2 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 22:01:33 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507270301.WAA02087@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Newsgroups 2

According to Barry...  
>> >  
>> >So when a user wants to send a bltn:  
>> >  
>> >1. Prompt him to enter a logical T0 field rather than ALL.  
>> >List a few (maybe 10 or 20 broad topics).  
>> >  
>> Actually, ALL is a quite logical T0: field.. There's no doubt that it's  
>> terribly over-used, but trying to get away from it entirely will cause more  
>> confusion than it avoids.  
>  
>In practice, T0 is used on conjunction with the SUBJ field. It is  
>easy to sort by categories of T0 rather than SUBJ.  
>  
>If T0=ALL, there is no information content in the T0 field. The user  
>now has to look through all the SUBJs to determine if the bltn is  
>about Guns owners or a TNC for sale.  
>  
>  
>So if a user wants to enter a bltn selling a Yeasue FT-101 he could  
>select something like: SALE.HF.YAESU  
>  
>I would suggest that the SALE and HF are STANDARDized and the YAESU  
>is free form. Users who would LIST this bltn might be shown as  
>SALE.HF as a category to select.  
>  
>T0 being a callsign field, is not that valuable for bltns. Lets  
>do away with T0 for bltns, use a X header line with categories.  
>

That sounds interesting! I'm pretty thick-headed at times... I still don't follow you completely.. Could you show an example of what a few such bulletins might look like in a listing? ( Just make up a few, as examples? ) Also an example of how it might look to the user as he enters his DEBATE or SALE bulletin would help a lot.  
I dunno what you mean by X header.. ( I dunno much of the jargon. )

I know what you mean about T0: ALL bulls, and how you have to look to the subject line to see what it's ALL about! I'm one of those SYSOPs who is pretty thorough about checking incoming bulls, even if I get 500 or more of them in a day. ( All that work, and I very seldom find anything worth zapping.. Hams are pretty decent folks! )

One thing I'm not sure about is how to indicate something is NOT for ALL, without ALL to give contrast.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

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## 243. [BBSSIG:1387] ] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 26 Jul 1995 22:02:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507270302.WAA02096@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: ] Re: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

Before I started off running a BBS, I used FBB as a personal terminal program ( DE-LUX ! ) I just disabled the beacons and neglected to set up forwarding files..

It seems to me that a simplified version of each "flavor" of BBS would make the best client software.. Have the client version set up with a few things missing, and a few others added.. ( As appropriate to make forwarding of messages to/from the local server work out right, with no confusion. ) Message compression would already be there.  
The client station could send a list of BIDs or message numbers to the server, which would act as a temporary, dynamic "forwarding file" which the server would use, then erase after forwarding the desired bulletins along with any personal messages to that client.

If every client was the "first forwarding station", this would make it easier for responsibility to end up where it belongs.

It's just a thought, and not a very well thought-out one, but still it may give us a starting place to work from.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

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## 244. [BBSSIG:1391] Re: Newsgroups 2 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 27 Jul 1995 18:42:39 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507272342.SAA03335@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dave Wolf <wo5h>  
Subject: Re: Newsgroups 2

I suspect that if users were offered a menu of newsgroups to choose from, most would take the easy way out and select one from the menu.

Using a text-based dumb-terminal method (currently in use), offering a menu with each new message originated might burn up a lot of air time. In a client-server system, as has been mentioned to be desirable on the SIG and in St Louis (TAPR Annual Meeting) and Dayton, all of the menu options would be resident on the client (user) side and selected with a mouse click.

There could be an "other" category in which a user could make up his own TO and AT fields. Anything outside of the master list would be held for sysop review. During review, the sysop could change the address to something more conventional. This process might be automated to a degree (FBB's SWAPP.SYS 4RE's ACTION.BB).

The newsgroup list should be worked out in conjunction with the NOS gang since they have done some work in this area, already, according to what I hear.

73 de Dave Wolf W05H

## 245. [BBSSIG:1393] F6FBB Software Update (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 27 Jul 1995 19:55:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507280055.TAA03852@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: F6FBB Software Update

Hi fellow SysOp's, below is a bulletin I got this morning and think will be of interest to all of you whether your running FBB or one of the other fine software. This is all you need to know about FBB to this date:

Sender: Andy Witts <andy@gldil.demon.co.uk>  
From: Andy Witts <andy@gldil.demon.co.uk>  
Date: Mon, 24 Jul 95 16:26:55 PDT  
Subject: WinFBB - What's what?

Hello FBB SysOp, 24-Jul-95

There seems to be several rumours spreading through the Network about FBB and forthcoming developments/releases. Also, some SysOps are asking why nothing has been seen from Toulouse since Feb-94.

I thought that I would take this opportunity to try and inform Sysops of just what the actual situation is, as of today. This bulletin contains nothing which will not have already been distributed in Europe by either Myself or LA6CU.

-- o --

Following the release of v5.15c, F6FBB decided to start work on a Windows compatible version of the BBS code, alongside the existing DOS version. The intention being to release a WinFBB product at about the same time as Windows-95.

With the Win95 launch date slipping, work on WinFBB ceased.

Jean-Paul then took the decision to review the whole situation, and to commence a complete re-write of the source code, such that it could be compiled for use with either DOS or WINDOWS, so eliminating the need to keep two source files. This took quite some time, as you can imagine.

So, as of today what exists is a whole new product, which looks identical to the previous in the DOS version, but which now has a big-brother in the shape of WinFBB (which still looks like good old FBB from the users point of view). The WinFBB product is still somewhat incomplete, but is coming along very well indeed, and has a very 'slick' feel from the SysOp point of view.

Both versions went in to Beta Test in the late Spring, and several sites are now running WinFBB on a full time basis "in anger".

There is no projected release date that I am aware of, so don't ask.  
>From experience I would be surprised to see anything this side of Christmas. It'll be released when it's ready.

So, what's new?

Well, first off the minimum hardware requirements are now AT-286 + 2Mb RAM and the code will address up to 16Mb. Does anyone still have a 286?;-)

Secondly, the WinFBB platform allows for expanded use of Servers. As the BBS no longer will have to wait for the Server to complete it's operation, the Server can now run "alongside" the BBS, allowing for much more complex operations to be undertaken.

You will also notice the THEMES facility below, which allows users to be more selective in their listing/reading of message titles.

Here then is the relevant part of the CHANGES.DOC file after v5.15c distributed version.

-- 0 --

- Added flag I in the record of the user = Give list of new messages at logon.
- Added option I to change the FLAG I in command EU.

515c1

- Channel informations can be stored in EMS/XMS = option CHN in INIT.SRV
- Empty channel not visible with left/right arrows

515c2

- Command "WHERE file" in FBBDOS (to find one or more files in FBBDOS) Wildcards are accepted.
- Command TH -> acces to the thematic zone. The file THEMES.SYS is configuring this zone.

(This is like a NewsGroup facility, allowing users to list only bulletins in a certain category, depending upon their TO address. Like NNTP groups. Comment from G1DIL)

515c4

- Fixed problem with DED interface and Mux.
- Fixed crash when THEMES.SYS was changed during a session.
- New variables :
  - %T = name of the current thema.
  - %t = number of bulletins in the tcurrent thema.
  - %X = number of messages for the user.
  - %x = number of new messages for the user.

515c8

- Option OVR in EMS/XMS no longer exists. Remove it from INIT.SRV.
- Selected 1 or 2 for EMS/XMS in INIT.SRV is indifferent. Options are still valid.
- Code has been fully rewritten/adapted for DPMI 16 bits protected mode.
- Code no longer works on XT.  
=====
- Two more files must be added in the FBB\BIN directory :
  - > RTM.EXE
  - > DMPI16BI.OVL
- Servers and PG now have more than 500KB of memory to run.

515c9

- Problems with speed of communication when using DPMI fixed.

515c10

- FORWARD.SYS : test "IF N 1,3,5" has been added. Allows to test with the number of the day in the month (1..31)

515c14

- Mini-editor was sometime crashing when loading a file. Fixed.
- "Load file" in mini-editor rewritten.

515c15

- Error when displaying "NetRom" nodes. Fixed.
- FBBIOS40 should work ith 16550 FIFO chips.
- More debugging information in ERROR.SYS

515c18

- CONNECT/FAILURE/BUSY are now case independant
- First PORT of BPQ (MultCh) is 0 again to be compatible with previous version.

515c19

- Server REDIST is included. File REDIST.SYS must be in the system directory.

515c20

- Optimization of the data transfer between FBB and FBBIOS
- Commands > and = are not allowed in read-only mode
- First Windows version...

#### 515c21-23

- Evolution of the Windows version

#### 515C24

- Windows COM driver validated for DED protocole. Interface number is 6
- Multiplexor validated with this interface.

#### 515C25

- FBBRUN.EXE now runs :
  - START.PIF
  - WFBB.EXE
  - MAINT.PIF
  - STOP.PIF (only at the end of the session)
- CtrlY to delete a line in the editor.
- Colors defined in INIT.SRV are used in the Windows version.
- Copy in FbbDos did not work.
- Unproto requests did not work in Windows version.
- Selection box of "Edit System File" in SYSTEM directory
- Validation and unvalidation of the SCAN menu selection.
- System files are checked after local editing.
- Forward information dialog in "Edit Message"
- GMT time in header corrected.

#### 515c26

- Implementation of the VXD interface of the BPQ code.
- Maintenance was not ran. Corrected

#### 515c27

- CtrlF1 to CtrlF10 available in the editor (but CtrlF1 and CtrlF10 seem to be captured by Windows)
- Timeout on the error modal message boxes.
- Forward all BBS in Pending forward dialog.

#### 515c28

- Application gave exception error with PG programs. Corrected.
- New COMM.DRV modified for modem support. Replace the one in WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory by the COMM.DRV for WinFBB.
- Modem in WinFBB now support ZMODEM upload and download with the DSZ shareware. Install DSZ.COM and DSZ.PIF in FBB\BIN directory.

#### 515c29

- XON/XOFF were not validated in modem mode (Windows)
- Message windows are no longer modal.

#### 515c31

- Problem to open the console corrected
- Pending forward window was slow. Corrected.
- Forwarding session could hang. Corrected.
- Display all channels window is added.

#### 515c32

- Import/Export implemented
- Week of the log was wrong. Corrected
- Positions of the windows recorded.
- Simple autowrap in editor. I'll try to add justification later.
- BAT files were not ran from CRON or FORWARD. Corrected
- DSZ did not find the right COM if not COM1 or COM2. Corrected.

#### 515c33

- Filters and PG did not work in foreground.
- Programs in FORWARD.SYS were ran in background. Corrected.
- Heard did not work. Corrected.
- DSZ was called too late (connection was lost). Corrected.

#### 515c34

- User pop-up menu including Disconnect and informations
- All program ran from FORWARD.SYS are now synchronous.
- some minor bug corrections.
- MultCh for BPQ in PORT.SYS was wrong in the Windows version. The first port of BPQ corresponds to the MultCh 0 (was 1 !). Change your PORT.YS...
- Dynamic libraries version. For beta test, only the code will be released (400KB less...). The three DLLs must be in FBB\BIN directory.
- Filters accepted as DLL (much faster...). Example of code for M\_FILTER.

#### 515c35

- SERVER.IN was overwritten if more than one service was run. Now the name is SERVER01.IN, and incremented up to SERVER09.IN in Windows

- version. WinFBB will not delete the file. The service should do it.
- Delete command added in editor.
- AutoWrap now OK in editor. Unvalidated if the editor is called for file editing.
- Control + Up, Down, Prior, Next, Home, End validated in console window. Other keys are used for line editing.
- Up, Down, Prior, Next, Home, End validated in all other display windows.
- TimeOut disabled during DSZ session.

w515c36

- MESS.WP was not imported in WinFBB. Corrected.
- Ethernet/tcp-ip implementation. Needs the WINSOCK.DLL Microsoft library. In PORT.SYS, Port address in com address, Interface is 7, TNC emulation is T (instead of D, Q, ...).

w515c37

- The map is now in a separate zip file named w515cNNm.zip (NN is the release number). This will allow to give me the file and line number where occurs the exception error.
- List of the 20 last connections. I have no idea for the icon in the control bar ... If you have some idea, or a 20x20 bitmap ...
- Information on a connected station. Double clic on the callsign line of the connected stations give the info.
- DSZ is run minimized.
- Date and size of the message in "edit message".
- I'm now running the WinFBB version 100% of time. It runs together with WISP for the satellite gateway.
- Insert in the editor could change the default directory. Corrected.
- Console was timed out while editing. Corrected.
- Console is disconnected when the window is closed.
- Buffers are freed when a channel window is closed.

w515c38

- Changes in the DSZ management. Should fix the GPF problem
- Uploaded file via modem is now validated and set to the user.
- F\_FITRv1dated.
- Changes in the Windows Interface
- Every connected channel is bufferized. The connection is visible while double-clicking on the user in the list.
- Talk was sometime hanging. corrected
- The connection time in the list was sometime wrong. Corrected.
- Added the selection of the port in the connection list.

-- 0 --

So, that's all for now, gang.

I'll send another update bulletin in a couple of months to let yo guys know what's happening and how the development is progressing.

For those who might not be aware GB7BBS carries ALL of the current FBB material, along with any updated files since the last major release. Look in the file FBBFILES\!UPDATES. Additionally, there is currently 10.8Mb of FBB related material on file in the FBBFILES area, covering everything from official release material, through to a FORUM area which archives tricks and tips bulletins taken from the Network, as well as Servers, Utilities and a whole bunch of other stuff.

Access is available to everyone, registered or not, for immediate download. The facility runs on the latest FBB code and is available 24 hours per day on +44.1746.862531 (except for when it's crashed during testing) :-(

All speeds up to and including V34 28,800 bauds are supported.

If you've written an FBB related utility then please let me have it for inclusion, here and elsewhere in Europe.

Best 73 de Andy G1DIL SysOp @ GB7BBS - FBB SysOp Support BBS

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73, de karl k5di

## 246. [BBSSIG:1394] Meteor Shower 2m EVENT! (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 27 Jul 1995 19:57:11 -0500 (CDT)



To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507280057.TAA03871@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dave Wolf <wo5h>  
Subject: Meteor Shower 2m EVENT! (fwd)

Here's a post from amsat-bb that should be interesting to some on the SIG:

Forwarded message: > From listmaint@AMSAT.Org Thu Jul 27 18:30:29 1995 > Date: Thu, 27 Jul 1995 13:34:02 -0400 (EDT)  
> From: Bob Bruninga <bruninga@greatlakes.nadn.navy.mil>  
> To: amsat-bb@AMSAT.Org  
> Subject: Meteor Shower 2m EVENT!  
> Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950727133053.21752J-100000@greatlakes.nadn.navy.mil>  
> Mime-Version: 1.0  
> Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII  
>  
> In order to get the maximum number of transmitters and listeners on the  
> air, we need to get the following announcement out to all interested  
> packeteers:  
> -----CUT HERE-----  
> NATIONWIDE 2 METER METEOR SHOWER TEST 11-15 AUGUST  
>  
> The August QST Packet Perspective column by Stan Horzepa pondered  
> a plan to test 2 meteor scatter. LETS DO IT! Amateurs Nationwide  
> are hereby encouraged to participate in the Persieds Meteor  
> Shower which will peak on 13 Aug. Although 6 meters is far better  
> than 2 meters for meteor scatter work, everyone has a 2 meter radio and  
> we can make up in numbers what is lacking in performance. All  
> you need is a TNC, and preferably high power and a beam. The objective is  
> to see how many grid square (DX) packets you receive over the 4 day event.  
>  
> Here is the plan: Stations in the four quadrants of the country will  
> alternately transmit for 15 seconds. Stations will transmit the  
> shortest possible meaningful packet formed by placing their 6 digit  
> grid square in the UNPROTO TO callsign field. eg, W3AD0>FM18SX: The  
> suggested frequency is the ARRL experimental packet frequency of 145.79.  
> BE SURE THIS FREQUENCY IS NOT OTHERWISE ASSIGNED IN YOUR AREA. EVEN so,  
> you can still monitor!  
>  
> STEP-BY-STEP SET UP PROCEDURES:  
>  
> 1) Point your beam towards a major population area about 500 to 1000 miles  
> away in one of the three other USA quadrants. If there is another 2m  
> local station, coordinate your beam headings so that you are not both  
> hitting the same azimuth and receiver target area.  
> 2) Enter your grid square into your TNC using the following command:  
> cmd: UNPROTO FM18SX  
> (If you cannot estimate the last 2 digits, use AA)  
> Notice that there is NO VIA DIGIPEATER used!  
> 3) ATTENDED OPERATION: Enter the converse mode (cmd: CONV) and  
> then each time you hit your carriage return key, you will send a packet.  
> Hit 20 CR's and you will send a bundle of 20 grid square packets.  
> Synchronize your clock with WWV and transmit as many CR's you can in  
> the following schedule:  
> North East stations transmit between 00 to 14 seconds  
> South East ... 15 to 29 seconds  
> South West ... 30 to 44 seconds  
> North West ... 45 to 59 seconds  
>  
> 4) UNATTENDED OPERATION: This will probably be the most successful:  
> a) Set your BEACON TEXT to ^HP where H and P are single characters:  
> H is beam heading divided by 10 and expressed by the digits 0 to 9  
> and then A through Z. 9=90, A=100, B=110, C=120... Z=350  
> P is the square root of your power %10. 1=10, 2=40, 3=90... 9=810  
> b) Set your BEACON to EVERY 1. This is not in accordance with the  
> scheduled 15 second cycle, but it is better than nothing if you are  
> operating un-attended.  
>  
> 5) Alternatively, run the APRS program version 71b or later, which has an  
> automated mode for Meteor Scatter and will plot all received packets on  
> the map. Also, in many areas, 145.79 is already being used for APRS.  
> Read the APRS METEOR.txt file.  
>  
> EXPECTATIONS: Meteor scatter paths are VERY specific between the  
> transmitter and the receiver, typically any single event will only be  
> heard by receivers within about a 20 mile footprint. This is why  
> everyone can transmit at the same time in the same area, preferably

> pointing their beams in slightly different directions. As long as  
 > there is about 50 miles between identical TRANSMITTING stations, their  
 > signals will NOT probably hit the same receivers at the same times.  
 >  
 > W0RPK and K1HTV did make a successful 2 meter packet contact in 1984 over  
 > about a 1000 mile path, but it took 2.5 hours of constant packets.  
 > Hopefully by having hundreds of transmitters, and hundreds of receivers,  
 > we can improve the statistics. The best time for meteors is in the early  
 > mornings from 0400 to 0800 LOCAL time. But it is not much worse the rest  
 > of the day...  
 >  
 > REPORTS: Since you will possibly see packets that no one else will see,  
 > send all gridsquare reports (Only those known to be greater than 250 miles  
 > distant) to me and I will compile the data. Be SURE to include your  
 > gridsquare!  
 >  
 > Bob Bruninga, WB4APR @ KA3RFE.MD or  
 > bruninga@greatlakes.nadn.navy.mil (preferred)  
 >  
 > P.S. The Naval Academy 40 foot dish (Annapolis MD) will beam towards  
 > Florida on the 11th, Atlanta on the 12th, the midwest on the 13th.  
 > Donno about the final 2 days yet. Expected ranges are only about 550  
 > miles, though, because the elevation cannot get down below 10 degrees.  
 > The range to Atlanta and Indianapolis are about perfect for that...  
 >  
 >  
 >

## 247. [BBSSIG:1397] TPK/FBB interfacing (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Thu, 27 Jul 1995 20:35:27 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199507280135.UAA04137@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: N5IST@aol.com  
 Subject: TPK/FBB interfacing

In a message dated 95-07-26 18:27:55 EDT, Andy KB7UV writes:

>That's all well and good, but it is a single program, and proprietary to  
 FBB.  
 >  
 >I am suggesting an addition to the BBS Protocol Spec to permit open  
 >development of client-side software.  
 >  
 >Perhaps the mechanism used by FBB/TPK could be used as a model for an open  
 >protocol spec, perhaps not. Could you describe the mechanism used by  
 >TPK/FBB to accomplish what I described?  
 >  
 >Thanks,  
 >  
 >Andy  
 >--  
 > \_\_\_\_\_ Andrew Funk, KB7UV \_\_\_\_\_  
 > | Tech Producer/Editor Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |  
 > | WCBS-TV Channel 2 News http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |  
 > | New York, NY USA Writing for my self, not my employer! |

Hi Andy:

When FBB stores a new message it also sends a UI beacon frame that  
 contains  
 basically what is in the messages header area. ie. MID, To, From, @, Title  
 and Size.  
 TPK stations see this beacon and add the data to there message listing for  
 that bbs.  
 FYI, TPK can maintain multiple bbs listings. If TPK misses one or more  
 beacons either  
 through QRM, marginal path, or being turned off overnight, it will send a UI  
 beacon to  
 FBB requesting a repeat of the missing messages. For TPKers that due not have  
 a direct path to FBB, the List2TPK utility can be used to keep the listing  
 updated.  
 List2TPK uses FBB's LR (list reverse) command to do this.

The user can use the mouse to look over the listing, while offline, and  
 tag messages  
 of interest. He can set TPK to automatically tag messages for retrieval with

string  
matching in the To, From, @, and Title fields. TPK will periodically or manually connect to FBB and request retrieval of all tagged traffic. FBB forwards the traffic using the same compression method used between other FBB bbs's. MSYS has this same compression method and can forward with FBB systems using compression.  
So, the method isn't proprietary.

To send messages, TPK has a text editor. Besides the usual typing methods to compose a message TPK that can import text files, much like a paste command works. It maintains a simple WP listing. So, you can send a message to me, N5IST, and it will add the @N5VGC.#DFW.TX.USA.NOAM for you. If replying to a message, TPK will quote the original with leading <'s in each line. You can 7+ a file and TPK will prompt for message size limitation and then it will use 7plus to encode and split the file into multiple messages doing all the addressing for each message for you. TPK also decodes 7plus messages, you have tagged for retrieval, back into their pre-7plus format.

73,  
Wade

---

## 248. [BBSSIG:1399] Re: TPK/FBB interfacing (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 28 Jul 1995 09:40:28 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507281440.JAA11674@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: TPK/FBB interfacing

One thing Wade did not mention about TPK that I will talk to is the complexity of the TPK software. What with all the setup parameters a new ham will be lucky if he EVER gets it set up! The software is as large as the FBB server, not surprising since it does almost as much as the FBB software does.

I have been trying to get more hams on TCP/IP. In a town of 90,000 people it is very hard to do! I will go to the hams home and install the software and make it work. Then ftp the 2 good documentation files from my NOS. Tell the ham to experiment but save the original files to come back to if needed.

As of now, all the hams I have set up are off the air. It seems either it ain't fun or something changed and they can't get back on. I am not interested in pushing TPK to the same group of hams knowing it will be the same basic drill.

73, de karl k5di

---

## 249. Client/Server

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 28 Jul 1995 09:44:06 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507281444.JAA11713@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
July 27, 1995

There have been one or two vague references to client/server operation and discussions that were held at the Dayton BBSSIG meeting. I've been intentionally quiet about this up till now, so let me explain things.

First of all the group at Dayton was small. There is still a minor problem with logistics of packet meetings on 2 consecutive nights. After fighting the Hara indoor crowds and the miles of fleamarket aisles, it is understandable that people don't want to spend both Friday and Saturday nights in meetings. We're going to have to work something out on this.

The crowd this year included Roy Engehausen AA4RE who is the author of a fine BBS program. This was a rare opportunity to talk first hand with an author and get his unique perspectives. A focus of the discussion was where BBS programs were headed and where they ought to be headed. Everyone recognizes the intense interest in WWW and Graphical User Interfaces (GUIs). Several perceived BBS shortcomings and new ideas were discussed. No detailed notes were kept as the meeting was very dynamic with many new topics coming and going. I'll try to make a couple of points and explain some of the logic.

#### Model of a User

One of the big issues was who are the users and what are they running for computers. When Hank started the Xerox 820 BBS, 99.9% of the users had to be running dumb terminals. That's because there wasn't much else. Today we probably have about 95% running computers and 75% of those are PC compatible.

Moving quickly to the conclusion, the largest number of users are likely running PCs. We have to break the command line interface paradigm in order to implement more advanced features. Users are now generally capable of supporting a program with a GUI. If you don't have a PC now, used machines are readily available at reasonable prices. In another year, 386 machines will be castoffs.

#### State of the Art in Amateur Programs

Today the satellite operators are using an extremely nice program called WISP. This program has an excellent GUI with a very professional look. I encourage you to take a look at this program or talk to someone who has, it's excellent. People at the BBSSIG meeting indicated a strong interest in having a program of similar quality and features for users.

continued in Part 2

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## 250. C/S part 2

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 28 Jul 1995 09:44:40 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507281444.JAA11723@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

### Client/Server Part 2

#### Client/Server Model

Let me explain a bit about this model in very general terms. A single server program resides on a central computer, the host. Users, operate the client on their home computers. Screen formats, color, fonts, all of the configuration is provided by the client. Communications with the server is usually a cryptic compressed message and not necessarily human readable. The idea is to minimize communications between the client and server.

The client is more than a dumb terminal emulator. It could sort the bltns, highlight topics of special interest, automatically get the newest AMSAT Keps when they show up on the server, separate local items from regional, national, worldwide. Generally it could automate the process that we now perform manually. Note that this moves many "features" from the current BBS into the users computer.

If a number of authors write competing client programs, then users can chose features they like. The "look and feel" will not be determine by the server. In summary, the BBS program becomes a server and the terminal program users are now running is replaced with a special packet program, the client. The best known example of this today is FBB/TPK. However, one vision of the future has something much more heavily integrated in mind.

#### Standards

There have been a couple people mention standards. Obviously the client and server can't come from two authors without some agreement in the commands and exchanges. Likewise, if a user in LA wants to post a for sale, he should do it in a manner that will ensure the reader in NY will find it. This is going to be painful to accept, but without strict standards, none of these

objectives will be achievable.

How Do We Get There From Here ?

Greg started off by asking what features SIG members would like to see in the future. This has generated good substantial replies. These have been well thought out and concisely stated.

Accepting Change

I've been cultivating the "newsgroup" discussion for two reasons. I think it has merit and I'm trying to judge how well the concept is accepted by the Sysops. Client/server is going to be a big change and a number of new supporting structures are going to have to be implemented. Today, LISTing and READing bulletins by BID/MID is a little cumbersome. How about pointing to a message with the mouse, clicking and that's all. Users don't care if the client made the request based on MID or serial number or date or some other arbitrary scheme. Nor does the user care if the request looked like "R 12345" or "R3039" (12345=\$3039)

The Discussion Process

Many of the issues facing us are complex and require considerable thought and articulate contributions. I don't want to limit the discussions, but we can't discuss all the issues in parallel. Therefore, I propose the following PROCESS:

1. We discuss the value of client/server as a model. These are not to be detailed and implementation specific, rather a dialog on the value of GUIs, philosophical concepts of user benefits and the notion of standards. When this is complete, hopefully in a few weeks, we can determine a future course in more detail. We need to establish goals and objectives. Where do we want to go?

2. Next is how do we get there? Individuals with expertise in various areas may contribute their talents to organizing special subgroups which will generate more detailed goals.

3. A series of discussions will be held on the underlying concepts which support the goals and objectives. These might be: forwarding schemes, client/server interface details, new or different fields for bulletins and messages, etc. Some of these topics might be discussed in parallel so people who are interested in just one issue can focus their thoughts. This is where we determine the real details.

I would expect at some point, client authors will begin to generate first generation programs to provide elementary features and experiment with new ideas. Many people will migrate to that thread and begin to play with the new programs.

For now, can we focus our discussion on the issues in item 1? At some time in the future, we can move on to items 2 and 3.

Your comments are always welcome. Please feel free to make a posting or to send me personal mail.

73 Barry

---

## 251. [BBSSIG:1404] Re: C/S part 2 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 29 Jul 1995 20:25:25 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507300125.UAA20794@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Re: C/S part 2

Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net> wrote:

[ a wonderful explanation of this issue!! ]

>The Discussion Process

>Many of the issues facing us are complex and require considerable  
>thought and articulate contributions. I don't want to limit the  
>discussions, but we can't discuss all the issues in parallel.  
>Therefore, I propose the following PROCESS:

>

>1. We discuss the value of client/server as a model. These are  
>not to be detailed and implementation specific, rather a dialog

>on the value of GUIs, philosophical concepts of user benefits and  
>the notion of standards. When this is complete, hopefully in a  
>few weeks, we can determine a future course in more detail. We  
>need to establish goals and objectives. Where do we want to go?

[ snip! ]

>For now, can we focus our discussion on the issues in item 1?

Yes!

I recently brought up this issue in hopes we could begin examining this. Barry has done us a major service by breaking the discussion into logical steps. (Thanks!)

Client/Server, as a model, is perfectly suited to Amateur packet and will directly address current problems.

First of all is the user interface. Many people are disappointed with their perception of the primitive nature of packet BBSs. (Many of the comments I receive from visitors to my WWW Home Page mention that they've given up on packet since getting dialup Internet accounts precisely for this reason!)

When many of us first began to use the Internet the only software for email was the Unix mail program. Later came a more advanced, but still primitive program, mailx. Now there are far more advanced programs available on Unix systems, like pine and elm. And for those with network connections to their own PC (whether dialup SLIP/PPP, wire, or fiber) there are Eudora, Pegasus, and others.

News software has followed a similar progression.

Meanwhile, even with the many advances added over the years by authors, packet BBSs continue to be limited to command line interfaces.

C/S implementations should change this.

Clients could easily be GUI, but that isn't required. Someone could likely write a client for the old Tandy Model-100!

What is required, IMHO, is a standard. Then any client meeting the standard can work with any BBS meeting the standard.

And a C/S protocol could be used for BBS-BBS communications as well.

Whatever standard we develop, though, should be easily extensible. We should be able to come up with something that can grow as our needs grow, rather than a standard which will only apply to the BBS-type traffic which we know today.

Second, if we do implement a C/S protocol then we should also consider inclusion of data compression. Compression has proved successful and advantageous over Amateur packet radio through its inclusion in current BBS software. Having it as part of the protocol will bring these advantages to the user<-->BBS link.

73, Andy

--

|                                                                                   |  |                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| _____<br>  Tech Producer/Editor<br>  WCBS-TV Channel 2 News<br>  New York, NY USA |  | _____<br>Andrew Funk, KB7UV<br>Internet: kb7uv@panix.com  <br>http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/  <br>Writing for my self, not my employer! |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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## 252. [BBSSIG:1405] Re: BBS Wishes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 29 Jul 1995 20:26:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507300126.UAA20801@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Re: BBS Wishes

>  
> My proposal, which Hank responded to, is for the ability to request specific  
> messages and bulletins, not files.  
>

> This would permit intelligent user software to function with a "server" BBS  
> as a client program.  
>  
> And my idea is for this to be an addition to the BBS Protocol Specification,  
> so any client user program written to this spec will function with any BBS  
> which has implemented the spec.  
>  
> 73, Andy  
> --

Several good ideas for a new and improved BBS spec are being presented:

Client/Server polling of messages based on topic

Selection of the TO: topic

Moderated vs. UnModerated (okay - it's not in the chain but it could fit.)

A point-and-click GUI to the topic or area of interest from a menu that's  
already loaded in the client computer.

Isn't this just re-inventing the NEWS system and NNTP?

Maybe using the existing mechanisms, with a trimmed down protocol for our  
reduced bandwidth circuits, is something to be considered before re-inventing  
everything.

Bill

---

## 253. [BBSSIG:1403] FBB Modem Problem continues (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 29 Jul 1995 20:27:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507300127.UAA20809@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dave Wolf <wo5h>  
Subject: FBB Modem Problem continues

Hello FBB experts!

I'm still having trouble making a phone modem to work with FBB.  
It's a full-featured (MNP, etc.) 14,400 external.

The modem appears to accept upload of parameter settings from the  
computer, seizes the line when calls come in, but this is where things  
break down.

Watching on a second computer/modem originating a call to the BBS, the  
opening message is garbled. Doesn't seem to be a speed thing. All  
speeds (14,400; 9600; 2400; 1200) may change the size of the characters  
received from the BBS, but it is still gibberish. If callsign sent, as  
FBB expects, only garbage characters are echoed back. When BBS observed,  
no callsign or even garbage characters are displayed.

I'm using 5.15c with FBBIOS3.4. I had an external 2400 baud modem hooked  
up to a different computer running 5.15a and previous release of FBBIOS.  
Worked straight away. Have I missed some bug report or additional setup  
info for modems and FBB5.15c?

Thanks for any help that you can give.

73 de Dave W05H  
wo5h@tapr.org

---

## 254. [BBSSIG:1409] Re: FBB Modem Problem continues (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 11:29:02 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507301629.LAA24662@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: FBB Modem Problem continues

According to Dave...

>Hello FBB experts!  
>

>I'm still having trouble making a phone modem to work with FBB.  
>It's a full-featured (MNP, etc.) 14,400 external.  
>  
>The modem appears to accept upload of parameter settings from the  
>computer, seizes the line when calls come in, but this is where things  
>break down.  
>  
>Watching on a second computer/modem originating a call to the BBS, the  
>opening message is garbled. Doesn't seem to be a speed thing. All  
>speeds (14,400; 9600; 2400; 1200) may change the size of the characters  
>received from the BBS, but it is still gibberish. If callsign sent, as  
>FBB expects, only garbage characters are echoed back. When BBS observed,  
>no callsign or even garbage characters are displayed.  
>  
>I'm using 5.15c with FBBIOS3.4. I had an external 2400 baud modem hooked  
>up to a different computer running 5.15a and previous release of FBBIOS.  
>Worked straight away. Have I missed some bug report or additional setup  
>info for modems and FBB5.15c?  
>

I ran across much the same situation when attempting to use a SUPRA 14.4  
modem with FBB, earlier this year.  
After extended tinkering with the modem init string, I was able to get the  
thing to work ( mainly ) but still had it hiccup during ZMODEM downloads.

On the other hand, I found that SOMEBODY had it working well, as I was able  
to download files at 14.4 flawlessly from an FBB station in Canada, and  
another FBB station in California.

>From my limited success, the best suggestion I can offer would be to tinker  
around with the modem init string a bit. That's where I made the most progress.

I realize this info is rather sketchy and incomplete, but it may at least  
provide a starting point. Hopefully someone who has had better luck can  
provide more complete info.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

The face of a child can say anything..  
Especially the mouth part of the face.

---

## 255. [BBSSIG:1410] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 11:30:36 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507301630.LAA24672@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>  
Subject: Re: BBS wishes

On Sat, 29 Jul 1995 bbssig@tapr.org wrote:

Whilst we are on this subject could I please make a plea for a broadcast (or  
if you don't like that word, multicast) standard.

This single addition will, successfully implemented, give us a significant  
'win' over wire based services, which we otherwise simply emulate, badly.

The crucial thing is to produce an 'airside' standard, that isn't  
complicated, is preferably ASCII oriented (rather than binary) and can be  
easily decoded using, dare I say it, basic programs.

We are intrinsically a broadcast medium, why can we not use this feature  
and have BBS's broadcasting the bulletins at regular intervals, 'client'  
programs simply pick off the stuff that they want and ignore the rest.  
With careful design (perhaps using FEC modems?) there would be no need for  
a back channel so that in stricter licensing regimes (such as ours)  
stations could be completely passive, BBSs would use an active form with  
selective reject.

Come on chaps (as most of you are), there are at least three published  
protocols (each with their problems); can we not finally design such a  
beast and implement it, it really isn't that difficult, it took me less  
than 3 days knock my little version up.

We don't have to wait until a client appears, we could use it straight



away in busy conurbations with many BBSs close together as an efficient mechanism of bulletin transfer - it would also reduce the frequency requirements in such a busy area as everyone would forward on just ONE frequency (or pair, if using a repeater)

--

Dirk-Jan Koopman           Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806  
Computer Consultant       Email: djk@dirku.demon.co.uk or G1TLH@GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU  
"The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is no more annoying than  
the piano when played by a sister or near relation." --Oscar Wilde

---

## 256. [BBSSIG:1411] HAMNET (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 11:31:18 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507301631.LAA24680@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: HAMNET

This morning I was looking at the mail and a TO: looked interesting. It was HAMNET@USA and so I did a L> hamnet and had several on the board. So read them and it is a sub-net of the packet bbs net. These people want to read messages from each other and can avoid the other stuff by using a "secret" TO:.

Sounds good to me, some users are using the TO: in a sensible way.

73, de karl k5di

---

## 257. [BBSSIG:1413] Server And Client (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 11:32:58 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507301632.LAA24694@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Server And Client

In server my last message I really should have said Windows Client. This is a lot better explanation of the software. I have taken the liberty to reproduce part of the Manual for LIU and it follows:

LIU 95 - Packet for Windows

Introduction

This is the Beta-test version of LIU95 - Packet for windows.  
LIU95 is a general purpose Packet terminal & PMS program, for use on the amateur radio AX25 packet network, with most of the usual features found in packet programs, and few extra features thrown in too.  
The program is FREEWARE

System requirements

- \* IBM PC or 100% compatible - 386 upward
- \* Windows 3.1 or above
- \* BPQ v4.07b or above
- \* 7PLUS.EXE (supplied on Extras ZIP/disk)
- \* TNC capable of running with BPQ network software (most are)
- \* (optional) Real Soundblaster card capable of speech
- \* 640x480 display driver in Windows (256 colour recommend, but not essential)

Features

- \* 2 terminal windows for manual connections by sysop
- \* PMS for users to leave mail, download files etc.
- \* automatic forwarding/fetching of personal mail
- \* automatic forwarding/fetching of Bullitins
- \* Soundblaster Speech - announces users connecting and other events
- \* 7PLUS server and capture
- \* Activity graph available to sysop and users
- \* Monitor alert - sounds alarm when monitored text contains user-defined string

First things first

The program MUST be run on top of BPQcode,so that BPQCODE.EXE is loaded before Windows,this causes problems on some systems. Presumably, you have put VBRUN300.DLL in \WINDOWS\SYSTEM then run SETUP.EXE from windows to install it, you should be set to run LIU95, but before you do, its very important to edit LIU.INI in the directory you installed LIU95....C:\LIU95

73's de Scott Hather G7LIU

MAIL - AX25 : G7LIU @ GB7BAD.#23.GBR.EU  
Email : scott@g7liu.demon.co.uk  
Internet WWW : Home page comming soon.  
Snail Mail : 70, Lichfield Road,  
Sneinton,  
Nottingham  
NG2 4GG  
England

Of course Pine clipped long lines but I hope you get the idea. I will spend 4 hours this Sunday morning testing and collecting notes on how LIU works. A full user report follows...

73, de karl k5di

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## 258. [BBSSIG:1412] Server's (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 11:32:32 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507301632.LAA24687@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Server's

One server I have on my computer is from G7LIU. It is a pretty Windows program that is in Beta test now. It can be set to interface with the FBB server. It does 2 things for me. It shows me that I have been trained by Microsoft to want the "standard" windows interface. I love the mouse and the ability to point and shoot. With this software I can tell it to get all @usa messages. It will.

Then as I go through the messages I can select a part with the mouse and put it on the clipboard. Then I can switch to my editor and Paste what I selected from a packet message to a message of mine. Then with the clipboard the new message goes back to the LUI software.

Advantage: LUI works with a current pbbs software. It is for sure GUI. It looks like some of the WWW stuff.

Disadvantage: Some things don't work just right on the version I have. It does use the FBB compression method to transfer files. There could be a better way.

It's free software. I have it and can put it up if anyone wants to work with it. The author at one time read this SIG.

-karl k5di

---

## 259. [BBSSIG:1419] RE: HAMNET (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 22:32:45 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507310332.WAA26690@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "JEFF S." <jxs2151@sae.ssu.umd.edu>  
Subject: RE: HAMNET

The HAMNET started out because a few guys were frustrated with the petty arguing and flaming on the "regular" packet net and wanted to converse with others who were of the same mind. I saw the bulleting that initiated HAMNET and the guy (or gal maybe) just wanted to engage in conversations without the attacks that characterize "regular" packet discussions.

Says something about the state of the packet net doesn't it?

---

## 260. [BBSSIG:1420] Re: Server's (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 22:33:35 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507310333.WAA26709@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: Server's

> One server I have on my computer is from G7LIU. It is a pretty  
>Windows program that is in Beta test now. It can be set to interface with  
>the FBB server. It does 2 things for me. It shows me that I have been  
>trained by Microsoft to want the "standard" windows interface. I love the  
>mouse and the ability to point and shoot. With this software I can tell  
>it to get all @usa messages. It will.  
[snip]

>  
> It's free software. I have it and can put it up if anyone wants  
>to work with it. The author at one time read this SIG.

>  
>-karl k5di  
>

Very interesting stuff Karl. Perhaps we could convince the author to  
join the SIG (again) and give us some insight on his plans for this  
program. I for one would be interested in trying it out for  
evaluation. If it is Freeware perhaps it could be uploaded to the  
TAPR ftp site.

73 - Ron ve1aic

---

## 261. [BBSSIG:1421] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 22:34:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507310334.WAA26728@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: BBS wishes

>  
>We are intrinsically a broadcast medium, why can we not use this feature  
>and have BBS's broadcasting the bulletins at regular intervals, 'client'  
>programs simply pick off the stuff that they want and ignore the rest.  
>With careful design (perhaps using FEC modems?) there would be no need for  
>a back channel so that in stricter licensing regimes (such as ours)  
>stations could be completely passive, BBSs would use an active form with  
>selective reject.

>  
>--  
>Dirk-Jan Koopman Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806

While I think its a good idea to have a "multi-cast" standard I wonder about its  
usefullness in the application you describe. My interest in this topic was for  
its use on HF BBS channels where a number of BBS would hear each other  
directly.

On the other hand, I find that most BBS have gone to considerable effort to  
develop back-bones just so fwding would not be done  
on "user" channels but rather on point-to-point circuits.  
The use of compressed fwding has also improved the BBS fwding efficiency.

While the multi-casting of message headers to user stations is usefull in some  
instances I can't see the sense in broadcasting..er transmitting UI.. whole  
bulletins in plain text, especially where BBS carrying @WW and the like  
bulletins have a very small readership percentage.

I certainly hope you didnt mean that the BBS would transmit ALL new bulletins  
at "regular intervals" either.  
Perhaps you would like to restate your case.

73 - Ron ve1aic

---

## 262. Re: [BBSSIG:1424] Re: BBS wishes

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 30 Jul 1995 23:02:43 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507310402.XAA27180@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> While I think its a good idea to have a "multi-cast" standard I wonder about its  
> usefullness in the application you describe. My interest in this topic was for  
> its use on HF BBS channels where a number of BBS would hear each other  
> directly.  
>

Ron,

I don't know if the same protocol would work on both hf and for local  
distribution on vhf. It sure would be nice to have one scheme.

A compressed bltn, sent to several bbs (or users) simultaneously would  
really cut down on total channel capacity (equivalent channel time).

So who is lurking out there that's an expert on existing schemes?

Barry

---

### 263. [BBSSIG:1426] Re: Server's (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 31 Jul 1995 09:03:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199507311403.JAA09648@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "John M. Wilcox" <0005018901@mcimail.com>  
Subject: Re: Server's

This looks good, but will it work with other software than FBB? AA4RE,  
W0RLI etc.

JOHN/NS1Z  
5018901@MCIMAIL.COM

----- REPLY, Original message follows -----

> > One server I have on my computer is from G7LIU. It is a pretty  
> >Windows program that is in Beta test now. It can be set to interface  
with  
> >the FBB server. It does 2 things for me. It shows me that I have been  
> >trained by Microsoft to want the "standard" windows interface. I love  
the  
> >mouse and the ability to point and shoot. With this software I can tell  
> >it to get all @usa messages. It will.  
> [snip]

----- REPLY, End of original message -----

---

### 264. [BBSSIG:1429] RE: HAMNET (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 31 Jul 1995 19:58:41 +1900 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508010058.TAA25448@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: RE: HAMNET

On Jul 30, 10:34pm, JEFF S. wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1422] RE: HAMNET  
> The HAMNET started out because a few guys were frustrated with the petty  
> arguing and flaming on the "regular" packet net and wanted to converse  
> with others who were of the same mind. I saw the bulleting that initiated  
> HAMNET and the guy (or gal maybe) just wanted to engage in conversations  
> without the attacks that characterize "regular" packet discussions.  
>  
> Says something about the state of the packet net doesn't it?

Certainly does!

It says that:

1. The packet network is working.
2. There is diversity within it.
3. User can create interest groups at will.

If it says anything else, I missed it.  
Perhaps you would explain your comment, if you have further insight.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.OR.USA.NOAM

---

## 265. [BBSSIG:1430] LUI95b2.zip (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WAØRJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 31 Jul 1995 20:00:12 +1900 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508010100.UAA25470@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: LUI95b2.zip

Here is what I have learned about Scotts GUI client system. First it is beta level software and all things don't work as they should. But here is how it works:

1. It has a setup file where you tell it all manor of information. For instance you tell it what bbs to use, and what bulletins to send to you. It automatically brings over your mail addressed to you. On a set schedule it calls the bbs and checks the mail/bulletins.

2. When it finds mail/bulletins you have requested it requests them JUST LIKE ANY USER. It says r 38789 38965 ... ect. So it can work with any of the bbs software now in use. You need to tell the bbs you don't want pages. You want to continuously read the titles of all new mail/bulletins.

3. You can enter either a mail or bulletin message. Since there is no provision for developing or loading a White Pages, you must know and write the exact address for each message. When finshed the message is saved until the preset forward time, or you can make it go at once with a click of the mouse.

4. Both fetching and forwarding are done with the old uncompressed methods. This makes it useful with all current pbbs software.

5. The editor that you write your message with has problems. If you use the Tab key it all goes away. It does have word wrap but the line is too long for most pbbs.

Since it's a windows program you can use copy, clipboard paste and all the other nice things. But I haven't yet found a way to use this power...it has a 7 plus capability but that I haven't got working yet. It's a dos program called by a windows program...

The TAPR.ORG system won't let me put this FREeware on it so I have put it on the server 'ftp.ucasd.edu'. Log on with anaonymous and your e-mail address like klarsen@arl.mil and then change directory to the hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming and there you will find LUI95.zip or like that. I forget what I called it. It will be easy to get and then others can see how pretty it is.

With luck I will get a e-mail from the author. I checked the server I got it from in England today and there is no newer version there. We should tell Scott we are interested because just a little more work will, in my opionion, make this the GUI Client system we are looking for.

I keep forgetting to mention that you must be using the G8BPQ Switch when using this software. Since I have it running at all times at home I forget not everyone uses it. But you should....

73, de karl k5di

---

## 266. [BBSSIG:1428] Re: C/S part 2 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 31 Jul 1995 19:50:24 +1900 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508010050.TAA25316@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: martins@abqato.scs.philips.com (Steve Martin x7274)  
Subject: Re: C/S part 2

Andy wrote:

> Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net> wrote:  
>  
> [ a wonderful explanation of this issue!! ]  
>  
> >The Discussion Process  
> >Many of the issues facing us are complex and require considerable  
> >thought and articulate contributions. I don't want to limit the  
> >discussions, but we can't discuss all the issues in parallel.  
> >Therefore, I propose the following PROCESS:  
> >  
> >1. We discuss the value of client/server as a model. These are  
> >not to be detailed and implementation specific, rather a dialog  
> >on the value of GUIs, philosophical concepts of user benefits and  
> >the notion of standards. When this is complete, hopefully in a  
> >few weeks, we can determine a future course in more detail. We  
> >need to establish goals and objectives. Where do we want to go?  
>  
> [ snip! ]  
>  
>  
> >For now, can we focus our discussion on the issues in item 1?  
>  
>  
> Yes!  
>

[snip]

> C/S implementations should change this.  
>  
> Clients could easily be GUI, but that isn't required. Someone could likely  
> write a client for the old Tandy Model-100!  
>  
> What is required, IMHO, is a standard. Then any client meeting the standard  
> can work with any BBS meeting the standard.  
>  
> And a C/S protocol could be used for BBS-BBS communications as well.  
>  
> Whatever standard we develop, though, should be easily extensible. We should  
> be able to come up with something that can grow as our needs grow, rather  
> than a standard which will only apply to the BBS-type traffic which we know  
> today.  
>  
> Second, if we do implement a C/S protocol then we should also consider  
> inclusion of data compression. Compression has proved successful and  
> advantageous over Amateur packet radio through its inclusion in current BBS  
> software. Having it as part of the protocol will bring these advantages to  
> the user<-->BBS link.  
>

I think Andy is on to something here. I am not a Client/Server expert but I believe I understand the concept. The systems I have used commercially are based upon a proprietary protocol that runs on ethernet. We obviously don't want ours to be proprietary but rather open so all the needs of the current systems could be implemented through input from the authors of the current systems. Our system would have to take the eccentricities of RF (hidden transmitters, etc) into consideration. And now we aren't limited to AX.25 thanks to the FCC.

The protocol would take the form of broadcasts/polling from the server to see who is listening. The clients could acknowledge the broadcast/poll indicating what "flavor" of client he is; GUI or text and maybe some signal quality information.

We would probably want to list some assumptions up front like:

- 1) Clients would, for the most part, be up most of the time to listen for broadcasts/polling. If not, the operator would need to allow a certain amount of time for their system to come up to speed with the server.
- 2) The protocol would need to allow for some kind of error recovery by the clients; i.e. requests for missed packets, etc.
- 3) The server would have to keep track of the list of clients that are registered and where they are in the dialog.
- 4) The server would use some kind of broadcasting to cut down on the amount of traffic. I believe there was some discussion of this on the NETSIG but I can't recall exactly what it was.  
[ARRL : 8th Computer Networking Conference - October 7, 1989]  
[DAMA - A NEW METHOD OF HANDLING PACKETS ?]  
[by Detlef J. SCHMIDT, DK4EG]
- 5) Data compression is a requirement.

This is just a quick list of ideas. I have not put alot of thought into this but I would like to continue the dialog. I have been reading this SIG for quite a while and have noticed that most people feel it is time for a change. Since this is bound to be an open project, it will take some time to get the ball rolling but it is the only way to make it desirable for the majority of operators.

I am sure a lot of good work has already been done along these lines. Let's pull together all the best ideas from them that we can find. Once the concept of C/S has been ironed out, we will need to get down to defining the protocol.

I know this sounds like rambling but I'm doing this in between compiles :)

\*\*\*\*\*

Steve Martin, Software Engineer  
Albuquerque Test Operations - Philips Semiconductors, Albuquerque, NM

|             |                         |        |                            |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| VAXmail ID: | ABQ85B::MARTINS         | Ph:    | 505-822-7274               |
| Internet:   | martins@scs.philips.com | FAX:   | 505-822-7237               |
| PACKET:     | NR7P@WB2ARS.NM.USA.NOAM | Pager: | 505-857-9078               |
|             | nr7p@nr7p.nm.ampr.org   |        | (44.30.0.48 on 145.09 Mhz) |

\*\*\*\*\* Opinions expressed are purely my own. \*\*\*\*\*

---

## 267. [BBSSIG:1435] client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 31 Jul 1995 22:55:20 +1900 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508010355.WAA27466@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: client/server

The comments thus far have been without exception outstanding. The equilibrium is puncuated. As this idea progresses, I hope we will think back to the attributes making the present system so sucessful and longlived and, where possible, incorporate the best of them in the c/s system. A few that come to mind:

The standard's openness. The ease in which interoperability across different platforms is achieved. A base compatibility level, with additional negotiated features.

Starting bass-ackwards, what might some of the base features be in the future c/s system?

Compression seems popular, let's call it a base feature.

Is it agreed the interaction should be binary? Or are there plaintext

holdouts?

Would it be premature to attempt definition of a binary header format?

Are any of the bbs<>bbs protocol features worth plagiarizing?

What else do we need to reach that basic, first generation minimum standard? In other words, what absolutely has to be changed from the familiar human interface to take a worthwhile crack at grinding out some code?

Howie

--

Howard Goldstein  
N2WX

hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
<http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/>

---



# August 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9508

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9508](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9508)

## 1. [BBSSIG:1437] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 10:23:29 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508011523.KAA12760@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Re: BBS wishes

>  
> On Sat, 29 Jul 1995 bbssig@tapr.org wrote:  
>  
> Whilst we are on this subject could I please make a plea for a broadcast (or  
> if you don't like that word, multicast) standard.

Let's do it!

> This single addition will, successfully implemented, give us a significant  
> 'win' over wire based services, which we otherwise simply emulate, badly.

Amen!

> The crucial thing is to produce an 'airside' standard, that isn't  
> complicated, is preferably ASCII oriented (rather than binary) and can be  
> easily decoded using, dare I say it, basic programs.

A simple 3 bytes ASCII to 2 bytes data compression would be easy and  
significantly increase throughput.

Also, this should also be capable of sending binary files. What better  
way to distribute new software?

> With careful design (perhaps using FEC modems?) there would be no need for  
> a back channel so that in stricter licensing regimes (such as ours)

I imagine that some sort of "fill requests" will be needed. Specially for  
HF operation.

> Come on chaps (as most of you are), there are at least three published  
> protocols (each with their problems); can we not finally design such a  
> beast and implement it, it really isn't that difficult, it took me less  
> than 3 days knock my little version up.

References please to the published protocols. Even copies direct to me if  
possible. Still no direct ftp access here in the wilds of Montana.

I'm envisioning some sort of protocol where an AX25 packet could be  
broadcast to a certain AX25 ID via digi's if necessary. The data  
section of that packet might contain:

|                                |                                            |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Bulletin ID: X bytes           | # 10 or 12 bytes?                          |
| Type of Bulletin: 1 byte       | # gives 256 catagories, might want 2 bytes |
| Start address of data: 2 bytes | # max bulletin size is 65K                 |
| Flag: 1 byte                   | # bit for compressed, bit for last, etc.   |
| Data: xx bytes                 | # the rest is data                         |

The receiving end could pick these up, save the types desired, throw  
away records of duplicates or bulletins already received and continuously  
spit out bulletins.

> We don't have to wait until a client appears, we could use it straight

This would yield big improvements for clients and BBS's...

> Dirk-Jan Koopman            Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806

Bill

--

Bill Vodall   Box 75   Kevin, Mt   59454   1-406-337-2222

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

---

## 2. [BBSSIG:1438] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 10:24:02 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508011524.KAA12775@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Re: BBS wishes

>  
> >  
> >We are intrinsically a broadcast medium, why can we not use this feature  
> >and have BBS's broadcasting the bulletins at regular intervals, 'client'  
> >--  
> >Dirk-Jan Koopman Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806  
>  
> While I think its a good idea to have a "multi-cast" standard I wonder about its  
> usefullness in the application you describe. My interest in this topic was for  
> its use on HF BBS channels where a number of BBS would hear each other  
> directly.  
>  
> On the other hand, I find that most BBS have gone to considerable effort to  
> develop back-bones just so fwding would not be done  
> on "user" channels but rather on point-to-point circuits.

HF forwarding would obviously benefit from a multicast protocol, I believe  
that the local areas cells would also see a great benefit.

As in the real world of computing, packet operation is (or certainly should  
be) moving away from the remote-computer/dumb-terminal model. The distinction  
between a BBS and a user is going to narrow drastically. Probably to the point  
where the only difference between a server and a client is which side has  
the traffic feed.

I predict it won't be long until a significant percentage of packet operation  
is done by background tasks on multitasking systems (Windows?). In that kind  
of environment it's reasonable to see the "users" collecting far more  
bulletins than they do now. It'll be so much easier and more  
convenient to do so. No need to manually fight the BBS and the traffic.

So, multi-cast will, I believe, find an extremely valuable niche in  
the local packet cell.

> I certainly hope you didnt mean that the BBS would transmit ALL new bulletins  
> at "regular intervals" either.

That's what I see happening... And the older bulletins too. What ever the  
local needs, bulletin traffic, and the server's transmitter will allow.

It'll take some tuning of the software and the processes involved - but it  
can't help but be an improvement over the old system.

> 73 - Ron velaic

73 - Bill

Bill Vodall Box 75 Kevin, Mt 59454 1-406-337-2222  
Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

---

## 3. [BBSSIG:1439] Re: BBSSIG digest 227 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 10:26:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508011526.KAA12798@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>  
Subject: Re: BBSSIG digest 227

Various people said the following:-

> While I think its a good idea to have a "multi-cast" standard I wonder about its  
> usefullness in the application you describe. My interest in this topic was for

> its use on HF BBS channels where a number of BBS would hear each other  
> directly.  
>  
> On the other hand, I find that most BBS have gone to considerable effort to  
> develop back-bones just so fwding would not be done  
> on "user" channels but rather on point-to-point circuits.  
> The use of compressed fwding has also improved the BBS fwding efficiency.  
>  
> While the multi-casting of message headers to user stations is usefull in some  
> instances I can't see the sense in broadcasting..er transmitting UI.. whole  
> bulletins in plain text, especially where BBS carrying @WW and the like  
> bulletins have a very small readership percentage.  
>  
> I certainly hope you didnt mean that the BBS would transmit ALL new bulletins  
> at "regular intervals" either.  
> Perhaps you would like to restate your case.  
>

Depending on what one is trying to communicate with, that could be precisely  
what I DO mean. Although, with care, one would only need to do it two or  
three times. Before anyone flies off the handle here, can I just ask the  
question: what is the difference between broadcasting a message two or  
three times and 'sending' it (probably on different 'dedicated' channels)  
to two or three other BBSs and then what about the 10% of those messages  
that might actually be read. How are they obtained? Er, how many times  
are you broadcasting these messages now? Think about it.

There are actually two types of broadcast/multicast protocol see later on for  
details.

...  
...

> I don't know if the same protocol would work on both hf and for local  
> distribution on vhf. It sure would be nice to have one scheme.  
>  
> A compressed bltn, sent to several bbs (or users) simultaneously would  
> really cut down on total channel capacity (equivalent channel time).  
>  
> So who is lurking out there that's an expert on existing schemes?  
>

Now I don't want to blow my own trumpet here (says he looking into a  
convenient mirror whilst having a quick preen)...;-)

I do, however, spend a lot of my professional time designing and writing  
such protocols, so I can at least hold my own in these discussions.

...  
..

>  
> The protocol would take the form of broadcasts/polling from the server  
> to see who is listening. The clients could acknowledge the  
> broadcast/poll indicating what "flavor" of client he is; GUI or text  
> and maybe some signal quality information.  
>  
> We would probably want to list some assumptions up front like:  
>  
> 1) Clients would, for the most part, be up most of the time to listen  
> for broadcasts/polling. If not, the operator would need to allow a  
> certain amount of time for their system to come up to speed with the  
> server.  
>  
> 2) The protocol would need to allow for some kind of error recovery by  
> the clients; i.e. requests for missed packets, etc.  
>  
> 3) The server would have to keep track of the list of clients that are  
> registered and where they are in the dialog.  
>  
> 4) The server would use some kind of broadcasting to cut down on the  
> amount of traffic. I believe there was some discussion of this on the  
> NETSIG but I can't recall exactly what it was.  
> [ARRL : 8th Computer Networking Conference - October 7, 1989]  
> [DAMA - A NEW METHOD OF HANDLING PACKETS ?]  
> [by Detlef J. SCHMIDT, DK4EG]  
>  
> 5) Data compression is a requirement.  
>

This is a fair summary of the attributes of one type of protocol, the one with a 'back-channel' available - i.e. where the 'client' can communicate with server continuously.

Unfortunately, whilst it may be legally possible for any station in the US to have their packet station on-line permanently and unattended - in most other parts of the world, this isn't possible (eg here in the UK). These stations do not have a 'back-channel' or least only an intermittent one.

I believe that we need a broadcast protocol that can be truly broadcast whilst, at the same time, has the ability to utilise select reject messages to resend portions of bulletins where licensing regimes allow it.

The two types of protocol are not mutually exclusive!

As for models; well, there is a broadcast protocol in everyday use today in amateur service - which is the AMSAT protocol. I personally don't like it for terrestrial service because it I believe it is over complex, on the one hand, and quite restrictive (in the area of file names and message identification) on the other. However, the PRINCIPLES on which it is based are sound and are worth careful study.

Another model which is worth study is the multicast protocol contained within the Amoeba operating system (cf Tanenbaum, Kaashoek et al) (if someone would suggest a good place to place the necessary papers for downloading, I will put them there).

There are no models AFAIK for straight broadcasting other than some of the work that I have done (I would appreciate being proved wrong here, with examples). What I would say is that HDLC is not the ideal level 1 here. To broadcast truly effectively we will need to look at FEC (forward error correction) to try and reduce the gaussian error rate to reasonable bounds and thus reduce the need for 'repeat' broadcasts. There are those of course that have been saying this for years (yes, I have finally seen the light Phil :-)) and reckon that HDLC should be dumped forthwith for ALL purposes.

There is some understandable prejudice about 'broadcasting'. Please stop and think (and I know I said this bit earlier but it is worth drumming it in); how many times is a bulletin transmitted (broadcasted) a) simply to promulgate it throughout the network and b) being read by interested parties.

Everytime the PTT is closed your transmission WILL be heard by MORE THAN ONE recipient. We are NOT a wire based network and we should stop thinking like one. The 'private' channel should be used only as a last resort, say to link two distant areas together.

Can I say that there is a downside to this. If a decent protocol was invented and put into use - the number of BBSs would inevitably fall (probably quite drastically) because they a) could handle a very large no of users (no 'back-channel' or not much use of one) and thus b) be on 'hill-top' sites where they could be heard by even more people (and so possibly link better with other 'hill-top' sites).

I hope that, this time, something will come of this; if nothing else it would be a fitting memorial to G8UFQ who had a working broadcast protocol and BBS in 1985 (when there was only W0RLI mk2 and some new fangled stuff called MBL) and whose untimely death seemed to bring research in this to a standstill until G0/K8KA et al started work on it for AMSAT.

--

Dirk-Jan Koopman      Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806  
Computer Consultant   Email: djk@dirku.demon.co.uk or G1TLH@GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU  
"The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is no more annoying than the piano when played by a sister or near relation." --Oscar Wilde

---

#### 4. [BBSSIG:1440] Re: LUI95b2.zip (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 10:27:16 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508011527.KAA12818@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: LUI95b2.zip

[snip]

> The TAPR.ORG system won't let me put this FREEWARE on it so I  
> have put it on the server 'ftp.ucsd.edu'. Log on with anonymous and  
> your e-mail address like klarsen@arl.mil and then change directory to the  
> hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming and there you will find LUI95.zip or like  
> that. I forget what I called it. It will be easy to get and then others  
> can see how pretty it is.  
>  
[snip]  
>  
> 73, de karl k5di  
>

Thanks for the upload Karl, fyi the file is stored on ftp.ucsd.edu (typo there)  
in the directory shown.  
The file is called LIU95BT.ZIP and is 822K, a text file LIU95.TXT is also  
there.

73 - Ron velaic

---

## 5. [BBSSIG:1441] Scott Hather G7LIU (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 10:28:06 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508011528.KAA12830@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Scott Hather G7LIU

Of course Scott wrote the LIU (sometimes LUI) that I have been  
talking about. I asked him some questions by e-mail and will enter what I  
got back.

-----  
In article: <Pine.3.87.9507301149.A15424-0100000@mercury> klarsen@arl.mil writes:

>  
> Hi Scott. The TAPR BBS SIG is talking now about a Graphical User  
> Interface (GUI) Client system for packet bbs users. I thought about your  
> LUI Beta I have running here and wonder if you have had time to work more  
> with that software.  
>  
> In particular, since almost all the popular bbs servers are going  
> to the FBB compressed forwarding if you plan to do so as well. Also the  
> Send editor needs some work. A Tab seems to terminate all activity...hi  
>  
> So if there is a newer version somewhere please point me there.

Hi Karl,  
there are 2 versions I've put on Internet BETA & BETA2 available in  
/pub/ham on FTP://ftp.demon.co.uk (LIU95BT2.ZIP)  
However, I've put further development on hold, as I think I've got  
well over my head with it. I tried for several months to get the  
YAPP transfer working, which would be just a step away  
from FBB compressed forwarding.

There's a program just been released here, I think called winpack,  
which according to the author is everything my  
program could be (including FBB compression) at the moment I think  
it's been uploaded a phone BBS in London, but  
I've noticed most stuff on there gets uploaded onto one of the UK  
FTP sites within a few weeks. If it does appear I'll be  
putting a link to it on my web homepage (if you have WWW access?)

-----  
Scott Hather  
Nottingham, UK

Email : scott@g7liu.demon.co.uk  
AX25 : G7LIU@GB7BAD.#23.GBR.EU  
WWW : http://metro.turnpike.net/G/G7LIU/index.html

"Life is something we do while we're waiting to die"

-----

I hope there is nothing here that Scott wanted to keep just to me. I think not...but I will look for Winpack.??? and if found will d/l and try out.

73, karl k5di

---

## 6. multicast

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 10:44:47 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508011544.KAA13001@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Regarding multicast, the problems associated with hf are generally not the same on vhf. On hf, there are times when propagation will result in loss of a few packets and vary up to nearly total loss of the channel.

On vhf/uhf, this is usually not the case. (except in bad rain/snow). Most user->bbs connections are rock solid. The channel is fine, but heavily used (collisions, traffic, hidden tx).

In a scheme where station A multicasts to stations B,C,D it would seem that B,C&D would need the ability to receive fills. However, they need NOT NECESSARILY receive them from A. B might get fills from C or D, especially if they happen to be close together and linked via some highspeed network.

For example, A is on 40 mtrs and multicasts bltns. B,C & D each listen and capture what they can. So after a session B could send msgs to C & D saying:

I need the following fills  
BID 12345\_wa0rjt BLOCKS 4 8 13 33  
BID 23456\_w0rli BLOCKS 9 45

If both C & D responded, the total byte count sent from A + B + C + D might be lower (sure hope so) than the equivalent flooding scheme used today.

Now the details of block size and compression efficiency and ...  
Can someone work that out and post the most efficient protocol by next Monday?

73 Barry

---

## 7. [BBSSIG:1448] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 18:51:10 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508012351.SAA15208@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Re: client/server

Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org> wrote:

[snip!]

>  
>Is it agreed the interaction should be binary? Or are there plaintext  
>holdouts?

I see no need for plain text, as this is to be a machine-to-machine protocol.

>  
>Would it be premature to attempt definition of a binary header format?  
perhaps a bit, but soon...

>  
>Are any of the bbs<>bbs protocol features worth plagiarizing?

Perhaps we should plan on having the current BBS Protocol incorporated as a subset of the new protocol. In that way current BBSs will be able to

If we design a protocol which is extensible then we can implement it in stages.

--

## 8. [BBSSIG:1450] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

->

```
73 de Mike, ax.25net: N6KUY@W6JBT.#SOCA.CA.USA.NOAM
 amprnet: n6kuy@n6kuy.ampr.org [44.18.0.49]
 internet : mwestfal@silicon.csci.csusb.edu
Linux: the Gates of Hell shall not prevail.
GCS/M { -d+ p+ c++ l u++ e+(*) m++(-) s/+ !n-(---) h-- !f g+ w+ t++ r-(--) y+ }
```

## 9. [BBSSIG:1451] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

>

 $\gamma$ 

( snip )

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did that, and they would be right. Let's keep in mind the often repeated statement that most individual BBS users only look at a few, out of the hundreds or thousands of bulletins in the typical BBS. Everybody likes different "stuff", and the stuff they don't like is boring to them..

Is there really any reason to suppose that these same BBS users will want to have EVERY bulletin broadcast? Let's get real, folks. That's about as realistic as the idea that everybody is going to switch over to the special client software which would be required at the same time. It's real nice to think that everybody will soon be multitasking, but here on planet earth most hams are rather short on cash, and get by as they can with XT's, AT's, and even C-64's.

Most BBS SYSOPs get enough flak over simple forwarding of messages, and have developed strategies such as "quiet hours" forwarding, and compressed forwarding to reduce the amount of channel hogging they do. This sounds like a giant step in the wrong direction to me. I'm sorry if that's a problem, but occasionally SOMEONE has to jump up and point out the obvious facts from time to time. Unfortunately, common sense isn't really that common.

The transfer of text over packet is 100 percent accurate (most times) because of the use of checksums, ect... How are you going to do that in a broadcast? Hmmm?

How about the guys who have to go through a couple of nodes or digis to reach the nearest BBS? How about the guys who live out on the "ragged edge" of the BBS's area of coverage? How about the guys who live beyond a hill or on the other side of town? How about the guys who use their non-multitasking computers for something besides packet most of the time, and like to just "check in" and then go on to do other things with their computers and TNC's?

I own a 33 MHz 486, with all of the usual bells 'n whistles.. Multitasking is neat, but it also slows down things quite a bit. When I play DOOM, for example, I have to skip Windows and run it from DOS, to get the speed the game requires to run right. There will always be programs like that, and to make the assumption that everybody will want to be constantly multitasking is a little bit on the unrealistic side.

The client-server idea has some real merit. It's already here, and is proven to be a good idea. The broadcasting idea is a waste of breath.

IMHO.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Incoming enemy fire is never as accurate as incoming friendly fire.

---

## 10. [BBSSIG:1451] Multicast (was:wish list)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 21:03:44 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508020203.VAA15647@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
> Subject: Re: BBS wishes  
>  
>  
> I can just imagine the reactions I would get if I started broadcasting  
> bulletins all day long. With 300-600 bulletins a day flowing through, "all  
> day" may not be enough time to do the needed broadcasts and re-broadcasts  
> for such a scheme to fly. The local hams would think I was a real jerk if I  
> did that, and they would be right. Let's keep in mind the often repeated

Charles, we're not necessarily advocating that existing BBS broadcast all bltns continuously. I have to qualify this by making the point of whether the discussion is about users or bbs<->bbs.

Client/server multicast means that if w5abc reads a bltn and w5xyz is listening in, he could capture the bltn on the fly. So both would get the bltn but it would have been transmitted only once. Maybe w5xyz captured all but 1 block, in that case, if the msg is read by the user, the client would request a fill of just one block, not the entire bltn.

In some major cities, it may be reasonable to transmit bltns under some circumstances. I won't go into that now (see a back issue of the DCC for a proposal on this).



Now regarding the bbs <-> bbs situation, in practice today, if station A forwards bltns to B and C. All traffic gets sent twice. Depending on the band, power, and distance it may be possible to transmit each item only once.

73 Barry

---

## 11. [BBSSIG:1455] packet routing header utility program (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 22:40:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508020340.WAA16036@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: 7134@mgs.com (Orrin Winton WN1Z)  
Subject: packet routing header utility program

A program i've written in C and compiled, a utility i call ROUTES, may be of interest to packet bbs sysops and others so i am posting this announcement on BBSSIG and TAPR-BB lists.

ROUTES.EXE: A self-extracting archive. For DOS; there is one version for a 50-line screen and one for the 25-line screen. The utility creates a searchable listing, using packet bulletins you have downloaded off your local ham radio BBS using the 'rh' command (rather than 'r') to get the long-header info. (Sorry, i don't know what the equivalent FBB command is for this. It might be 'v'.) The listing will tell you who forwards to whom, who receives from whom. Will also tell you how many days a message stayed on a BBS en route. You can then search the listing with the search program provided, and it will produce a file based on a search callsign you provide.

Someone will say that this information could also be gleaned by simple inspection of the routing headers; however, the program ALSO PRODUCES a comma-delimited file (with all forwarding info, not just a single search-callsign) which can be imported into dBase, Paradox, etc. for very versatile sorts and searches. Find bottlenecks between BBSs with corresponding dates and length of 'holds' or delays. In a dBase IV file i made with the results of the program, i sorted on BBS-a, BBS-b, and date, and got a listing showing a history by date of delays in forwarding from a to b, hundreds of 'pairs' of BBSs. The utility will not of course tell you anything about a message which never got to you. For the latter, you need witchcraft and a big stick :-)

not C code.

Sysops who are not "downloading" messages on the air, with routing headers, but who rather wish to analyze messages sitting on their hard disk, might be able to create one large file with all the messages combined into one file, by doing the following dos command: copy \*.\* packet.txt ; my utility requires that there be a text file called 'packet.txt' to work on (a sample is included with my utility); i've used file sizes up to 800K without my utility coughing and dying on me; don't know how big the 'packet.txt' file can get before it would cough and die. Perhaps never, since the text file is examined line by line and only a few hundred bytes are held in memory at any given moment.

An earlier version of this program appeared in May on the CD-ROM "The World of Ham Radio" by Amsoft. However, the version of ROUTES on the CD does not include the comma-delimited file feature mentioned above.

I'm offering some other original freeware, such as (1) curve-fitting regression package (stats) for amateur radio (and other) programmers (how to get an equation to fit a curve in some engineering handbook); (2) rhombic antenna design hf/vhf; a set of 3 programs i call 'fromage' which yank all lines out of Internet email which start with 'From:'. Then you sort the file, kill duplicates with another program of mine, but then you have to go in and clean up the unnecessary garbage like the 'From:' at the beginning and any other junk that came on the line. Eventually i'll get around to combining all these functions into one 'big' utility and

include some garbage disposal routines.

Also have some freeware, with C code and author identification material, for several TSR utilities, one of which lets you copy PARTS of your screen (the parts you select) to a disk file, and appends to that disk file every time you invoke the TSR. I use it to reduce 300K listserver downloads to 10K of excerpts. The problem, if it's a problem, is that you have to use a simple DOS text editor like Q-edit; the TSR won't work under Windows, nor in WP for DOS. And 25-line screen only. I just now checked, and it won't work with MSDOS EDIT. If you need Q-edit, I think I can send that to you since the signoff blurb makes it look like shareware, and I'm not SELLING anything in this posting. Apparently the TSR routines are ancient, from the late eighties.

At this point in time I don't have any of this stuff available at an FTP site; if you want any of these programs, please send a formatted 1.44 disk, mailer, and enough return postage, to me: Orrin Winton, PO Box 89, Big Sur CA 93920.

Specify which program(s): ROUTES, STAT, RHOMBIC, FROMAGE, TSR, Q-EDIT.

Best regards,

WN1Z Orrin

PS: Have just started reading these 2 lists, and do enjoy them quite a bit. After a while reading them, I might be able to offer an opinion or 2 of my own to the threads in progress. Thanks for reading this posting.

---

## 12. [BBSSIG:1456] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 1 Aug 1995 22:41:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508020341.WAA16055@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: client/server

On Jul 31, 11:00pm, Howard Goldstein wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1436] client/server  
> The comments thus far have been without exception outstanding. The  
> equilibrium is punctuated. As this idea progresses, I hope we will think  
> back to the attributes making the present system so successful and  
> longlived and, where possible, incorporate the best of them in the C/S  
> system. A few that come to mind:  
>  
>     The standard's openness. The ease in which interoperability across  
> different platforms is achieved. A base compatibility level, with  
> additional negotiated features.  
>  
> Starting bass-ackwards, what might some of the base features be in the  
> future C/S system?  
>  
> Compression seems popular, let's call it a base feature.  
>  
> Is it agreed the interaction should be binary? Or are there plaintext  
> holdouts?

I'm a plain text holdout. Exchange formats in plain text  
have the advantage of simple test case generation.

>  
> Would it be premature to attempt definition of a binary header format?

I'd say yes, since we don't know what we want to do yet ...

>  
> Are any of the bbs<>bbs protocol features worth plagiarizing?

All of them ... since they will be one subset of the general exchange protocol. Also we should look at mime ... and rcc-822 et al.

>  
>  
> What else do we need to reach that basic, first generation minimum  
> standard? In other words, what absolutely has to be changed from the  
> familiar human interface to take a worthwhile crack at grinding out  
> some code?

A requirements spec: something that spells out what we are trying to do in some detail ... what problems are we going to solve?  
Who will we solve these problems for? Why is it important?  
(Need to prioritize the work). Etc.

>  
> Howie  
>  
> --  
> Howard Goldstein  
  
hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
> N2WX  
http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/  
>  
>  
>-- End of excerpt from Howard Goldstein  
  
--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.U.S.A.NOAM

---

### 13. [BBSSIG:1459] Re: packet routing header utility program (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 2 Aug 1995 08:46:25 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508021346.IAA20413@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Subject: Re: packet routing header utility program

Warren, WN1Z wrote:

>ROUTES.EXE: A self-extracting archive. For DOS; there is one  
>version for a 50-line screen and one for the 25-line screen.  
>The utility creates a searchable listing, using packet  
>bulletins you have downloaded off your local ham radio BBS  
>using the 'rh' command (rather than 'r') to get the long-header  
>info. (Sorry, i don't know what the equivalent FBB command is  
>for this. It might be 'v'.)

The V command is correct for FBB, i.e. V 54321

73, Larry, WB9LOZ (lkenney@slip.net)

---

### 14. [BBSSIG:1460] Re: BBSSIG digest 228 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 2 Aug 1995 08:48:17 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508021348.IAA20430@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>  
Subject: Re: BBSSIG digest 228

> The main reason is because packet spectrum is a shared resource. There are  
> a limited number of packet "channels", and most of them are usually busy,  
> even here at my location which is considered to be "out in the boondocks".  
> There's a lot going on out there besides BBS operations, and it's not polite  
> to tie up the channel if you don't have to.  
>

What is the channel being tied up with at the moment?

> I can just imagine the reactions I would get if I started broadcasting  
> bulletins all day long. With 300-600 bulletins a day flowing through, "all  
> day" may not be enough time to do the needed broadcasts and re-broadcasts  
> for such a scheme to fly. The local hams would think I was a real jerk if I  
> did that, and they would be right. Let's keep in mind the often repeated  
> statement that most individual BBS users only look at a few, out of the  
> hundreds or thousands of bulletins in the typical BBS. Everybody likes  
> different "stuff", and the stuff they don't like is boring to them..  
>  
> Is there really any reason to suppose that these same BBS users will want to  
> have EVERY bulletin broadcast? Let's get real, folks. That's about as  
> realistic as the idea that everybody is going to switch over to the special  
> client software which would be required at the same time. It's real nice to  
> think that everybody will soon be multitasking, but here on planet earth  
> most hams are rather short on cash, and get by as they can with XT's, AT's,  
> and even C-64's.  
>

How were the bulletins transferred onto your system? If they came by  
radio (and knowing your views on this matter, it seems quite likely..) then  
surely they were broadcast? As for computer power, I wrote a simple client  
that works quite happily thank you on a Genuine IBM (XT, 4.77Mhz) Computer  
(10Mb Hard disk).

> The transfer of text over packet is 100 percent accurate ( most times)  
> because of the use of checksums, ect... How are you going to do that in a  
> broadcast? Hmmm?  
>  
> How about the guys who have to go through a couple of nodes or digis to  
> reach the nearest BBS? How about the guys who live out on the "ragged edge"  
> of the BBS's area of coverage? How about the guys who live beyond a hill or  
> on the other side of town? How about the guys who use their non-multitasking  
> computers for something besides packet most of the time, and like to just  
> "check in" and then go on to do other things with thier computers and TNC's?  
>

It is a good question. But surely the answer is not to exclude them, but to  
extend coverage to make their task easier. Also why can't they leave their  
machines on over night or whilst they are at work. If things are retransmitted  
a few times a day then they will get it. In any case, nobody is suggesting  
that this will be the only access method - what about personal mail?

Should people be accessing mailboxes thru strings of digis and nodes?  
surely this one of the causes of channel congestion?

> Incoming enemy fire is never as accurate as incoming friendly fire.

How very apt.

--  
Dirk-Jan Koopman            Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806  
Computer Consultant       Email: djku@dirku.demon.co.uk or G1TLH@GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU  
"The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is no more annoying than  
the piano when played by a sister or near relation." --Oscar Wilde

## 15. [BBSSIG:1461] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 2 Aug 1995 08:49:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508021349.IAA20437@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Multicast

According to Barry ...

>Charles, we're not necessarily advocating that existing BBS broadcast  
>all bltns continuously. I have to qualify this by making the point of  
>whether the discussion is about users or bbs<->bbs.  
>  
>Client/server multicast means that if w5abc reads a bltn and w5xyz  
>is listening in, he could capture the bltn on the fly. So both would  
>get the bltn but it would have been transmitted only once. Maybe  
>w5xyz captured all but 1 block, in that case, if the msg is read by  
>the user, the client would request a fill of just one block, not  
>the entire bltn.

That sounds like it could be useful, but only under a limited set of circumstances. Harlingen, Texas would be a good example: The surrounding terrain is as flat as a billiard table, and the node is on a 1000 ft. TV tower.. Almost everyone in an 80 mile radius can hear what comes out of RGV node.

But if you throw in factors like hills, urban clutter and intermod, and band fluctuations, or are broadcasting into a smaller area of direct coverage the idea starts to lose utility. At this location ( north Texas ) for example, less than a quarter of my station's users can access the BBS in a direct line 'o sight connection, and many of those guys are just barely making it. It's hilly here, and there's lots of iron in the soil. Multicast would have SOME utility here, but it would be very limited.

Another factor to consider is that not that many packet ops are willing to either dedicate a computer to 24 hr/day packet, or slow down thier computers through multitasking so that they can catch fragments of many bulletins they are unlikely to have any personal interest in. The buffers in TNC's aren't up to the task, so this means that someone's hard-drive will have to take the wear 'n tear involved in storing all that stuff. This means that even within the area of direct coverage, only a small percentage of the packet ops would be in a position to make use of the multicasting feature, and many out of that group simply wouldn't feel it would be worth the wear 'n tear on thier hard-drives. ( This could be offset somewhat by having the client system only attempt to store bulletins addressed to the user's preference. )

When you ask the author of a BBS program to include a new feature in his code, you need to be able to demonstrate that the new feature will be useful under most, if not all circumstances. In particular, you must be able to show that the author or his code will never be made to look silly or useless under ANY circumstances. The program will have HIS name on it, so this attitude is perfectly correct and understandable. Also, adding a new feature can be pretty labour intensive.- It has to be well worth the time, space, and effort involved.

Look at compressed forwarding.. It's obviously very useful, but STILL not all BBS programs utilize it, and among those which do there are three or more "flavors" of message compression being used.

Server-client multicasting's utility isn't as universal as compressed forwarding by any means, so you must consider it's likelihood of actually being implemented before you get too involved in working out the details of it's operation. It may be better to expend your efforts elsewhere on simpler, more effective strategies..

>

>In some major cities, it may be reasonable to transmit bltns under  
>some circumstances. I won't go into that now (see a back issue  
>of the DCC for a proposal on this).

>

With my limited imagination, I can't see ANY circumstances where transmitting all bulletins would be useful, especially in a crowded urban RF environment. I don't doubt that there has been a proposal at a past DCC to do this, but I do doubt that the idea makes any sense here in the real world..

>

>Now regarding the bbs <-> bbs situation, in practice today, if station A  
>fwd's bltns to B and C. All traffic gets sent twice. Depending on the  
>band, power, and distance it may be possible to transmit each item only  
>once.

>

I think that THIS is where the idea may shine. As long as 100 percent accuracy can be maintained, it may be useful ESPECIALLY in urban environments, where there are several BBS's which can hear each other at one time and are on the same forwarding frequency..

If you are recieving bulletins from the west, and sending them east ( for example ) it would have little if any utility.

Also, you're asking an awful lot of the software at the BBS. It would no longer be good enough to simply store each message seperately.. Now you need to store each BLOCK of each message seperately ( Or spend a lot of processing time and hard-drive grinding ) so that you can come up with seperate blocks from particular messages at random times, in a timely fashion.. If ANYTHING changes in a bulletin ( Header stripper, normalizer, SYSOP editing of bad address, addition of R:headers, ect. ) then the blocks would also then differ, causing problems.

Forwarding block sizes would have to be standardized, so that means that the "standard" would have to be useful for the worst possible forwarding scenario. You couldn't use larger forwarding blocks on better paths. This alone would offset much of the advantage gained by multicast forwarding. Another drain on the software would be the fact that the BBS would have to be "listening" at all times, constantly checking to see if what it 'hears' is a genuine bulletin from another BBS. That takes up resources as well, and could lead to security problems since a hacker would only have to emulate a BBS broadcasting a single message to spread his nasties at little or no risk

to himself.

Re-read the section above about conditions under which a BBS author is likely to implement a new idea.

I'm not trying to rain on anyone's parade here. I figure any new idea should be able to stand up to hard questions involving real situations. Rest assured that my OWN ideas go through the wringer as well. If I show enthusiasm for one of my own ideas, that's because it has been through this process several times, been modified, and came out looking good. You can feel insulted when your idea is examined, or you can be more clever and feel glad that it's been tested BEFORE your reputation and work was tied up to it. New ideas originate from idealism, and that's good. They get applied or not through realism. ( or should be. ) This allows practical ideas to be fine-tuned and tempered against the conditions they will face, and allows impractical ideas to be shelved so we can go on to other things. My criticisms sound pretty uncompromising, I'm sure, but I mean well by them. When I point out problems which are then dealt with instead of being overlooked, that's when I feel the most satisfaction. When I point out problems which CAN'T be dealt with, I consider it to be a sad but still useful action to perform.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Incoming enemy fire is never as accurate as incoming friendly fire.

---

## 16. [BBSSIG:1466] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 2 Aug 1995 18:18:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508022318.SAA25236@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Subject: Re: Multicast

On Wed, 2 Aug 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

```
> >In some major cities, it may be reasonable to transmit bltns under
> >some circumstances. I won't go into that now (see a back issue
> >of the DCC for a proposal on this).
> >
> > With my limited imagination, I can't see ANY circumstances where
> >transmitting all bulletins would be useful, especially in a crowded urban RF
> >environment. I don't doubt that there has been a proposal at a past DCC to
> >do this, but I do doubt that the idea makes any sense here in the real world..
```

Here is a real life example....

In Tampa, we have one backbone frequency that several BBSs use for PBBS forwarding. \*IF\* each bulletins could be sent only ONCE (with each BBS receiving it at the same time), this would provide more bandwidth, greater efficiency, and make things far more responsive.

Even if this was just a 'we listen to all, and if it is a bulletin, we act as if it is sent to us' kind of mode, this would cut down on traffic in situations like this. Under this case, the PBBSs would negotiate to send them to all that they forward with, but would receive "No - already have" in most all cases.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 17. [BBSSIG:1468] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 2 Aug 1995 21:38:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508030238.VAA27963@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Multicast

>On Wed, 2 Aug 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

>  
>> >In some major cities, it may be reasonable to transmit bltns under  
>> >some circumstances. I won't go into that now (see a back issue  
>> >of the DCC for a proposal on this).  
>> >  
>> With my limited imagination, I can't see ANY circumstances where  
>> transmitting all bulletins would be useful, especially in a crowded urban RF  
>> environment. I don't doubt that there has been a proposal at a past DCC to  
>> do this, but I do doubt that the idea makes any sense here in the real  
world..  
>  
>Here is a real life example....  
>  
>In Tampa, we have one backbone frequency that several BBSs use for  
>PBBS forwarding. \*IF\* each bulletins could be sent only ONCE (with each  
>BBS receiving it at the same time), this would provide more bandwidth,  
>greater efficiency, and make things far more responsive.  
>  
>Even if this was just a 'we listen to all, and if it is a bulletin, we  
>act as if it is sent to us' kind of mode, this would cut down on traffic  
>in situations like this. Under this case, the PBBSs would negotiate to  
>send them to all that they forward with, but would receive "No - already  
>have" in most all cases.

RGR, Brian. In that section of my rather long-winded diatribe, I was  
responding to the idea of transmitting bulletins to Users in a metro area.

Later on I talked about BBS's doing it, in the section which started off  
talking about how it might really shine, ect, especially in urban areas  
where several BBS's were on a common forwarding freq.  
I also (as usual) pointed out liabilities I could find for that as well.  
That's what I generally do, and I included a short explanation of why I  
normally sound so negative. Check it out!

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Small change can often be found under seat cushions.

---

## 18. [BBSSIG:1470] Broadcast Servers (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 08:32:45 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508031332.IAA03358@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jwt@shrine.cyber.ad.jp (Jim Tittsler)  
Subject: Broadcast Servers

In article <199508020243.VAA02379@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>, Dirk-Jan  
Koopman wrote:

> As for models; well, there is a broadcast protocol in everyday use today  
> in amateur service - which is the AMSAT protocol. I personally don't like  
> it for terrestrial service because it I believe it is over complex, on the  
> one hand, and quite restrictive (in the area of file names and message

It does have the advantages of having existing clients for a variety  
of platforms and a prototype terrestrial server. Okamoto-san,  
JN2LHU, wrote a PB server in C and made the source available. I left  
PBSV004.ZIP on ftp.ucsd.edu a bit over a year ago.

On the other hand, W3IWI also suggested a multicast protocol in one  
of the Computer Networking Conference proceedings. He stressed the  
argument that a text-based protocol could allow the client-less user  
to pick out useful information easily.

73, Jim 7J1AJH/AI8A jwt@shrine.cyber.ad.jp

---

## 19. [BBSSIG:1471] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 08:38:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <199508031338.IAA03387@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>

Subject: Re: Multicast

> From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
> To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Subject: Re: Multicast  
> Message-ID: <199508021349.IAA20437@zeus.ia.net>  
>  
> That sounds like it could be useful, but only under a limited set of  
> circumstances. Harlingen, Texas would be a good example: The surrounding  
> terrain is as flat as a billiard table, and the node is on a 1000 ft. TV  
> tower.. Almost everyone in an 80 mile radius can hear what comes out of RGV  
> node.  
> But if you throw in factors like hills, urban clutter and intermod, and band  
> fluctuations, or are broadcasting into a smaller area of direct coverage the  
> idea starts to lose utility. At this location ( north Texas ) for example,  
> less than a quarter of my station's users can access the BBS in a direct  
> line 'o sight connection, and many of those guys are just barely making it.  
> It's hilly here, and there's lots of iron in the soil. Multicast would have  
> SOME utility here, but it would be very limited.

This is agreed, multicast isn't the universal answer to everything. It is simply one tool to be used in appropriate circumstances. An Urban environment, satellite (AMSAT use one) or HF are obvious ones. However, modern research shows that it possible to design a protocol that has multicast 'built in' such that should another station wish to 'join in' it will do so and then the benefits of multicast design start to accrue.

> Another factor to consider is that not that many packet ops are willing to  
> either dedicate a computer to 24 hr/day packet, or slow down thier computers  
> through multitasking so that they can catch fragments of many bulletins they  
> are unlikely to have any personal interest in. The buffers in TNC's aren't  
> up to the task, so this means that someone's hard-drive will have to take  
> the wear 'n tear involved in storing all that stuff. This means that even  
> within the area of direct coverage, only a small percentage of the packet  
> ops would be in a position to make use of the multicasting feature, and many  
> out of that group simply wouldn't feel it would be worth the wear 'n tear on  
> thier hard-drives. ( This could be offset somewhat by having the client  
> system only attempt to store bulletins addressed to the user's preference. )

Whilst I agree that there may be some who don't wish to partake of such a service and don't want to dedicate (a part) of their machine to this does not mean that a lot of others won't. As I have said in the past - nobody is going to stop those people from carrying on as they have; but this must not, in its turn, stifle new thought or ways of doing things that DO want to partake.

As for you comments on 'wear and tear'; I have actually implemented various versions of broadcast protocols in the past and can say that, at the speeds we operate at (up to 9600 baud, in normal user service) there is NO disc thrashing, buffer overflowing etc.

> With my limited imagination, I can't see ANY circumstances where  
> transmitting all bulletins would be useful, especially in a crowded urban RF  
> environment. I don't doubt that there has been a proposal at a past DCC to  
> do this, but I do doubt that the idea makes any sense here in the real world..

Unfortunately Charles, there are a number of us out here who can. I wonder whether you could do us the curtesy of allowing the discussion of the technicalities without coming down quite so heavily agin, simply because you can't see its usefulness at the moment. Hopefully the discussion will demonstrate the idea's utility to you in due course.

> If you are recieving bulletins from the west, and sending them east ( for  
> example ) it would have little if any utility.  
> Also, you're asking an awful lot of the software at the BBS. It would no  
> longer be good enough to simply store each message seperately.. Now you need  
> to store each BLOCK of each message seperately ( Or spend a lot of  
> processing time and hard-drive grinding ) so that you can come up with  
> seperate blocks from particular messages at random times, in a timely  
> fashion.. If ANYTHING changes in a bulletin ( Header stripper, normalizer,  
> SYSOP editing of bad address, addition of R:headers, ect. ) then the blocks  
> would also then differ, causing problems.  
> Forwarding block sizes would have to be standardized, so that means that the  
> "standard" would have to be useful for the worst possible forwarding  
> scenario. You couldn't use larger forwarding blocks on better paths. This



> alone would offset much of the advantage gained by multicast forwarding.  
 > Another drain on the software would be the fact that the BBS would have to  
 > be "listening" at all times, constantly checking to see if what it 'hears'  
 > is a genuine bulletin from another BBS. That takes up resources as well, and  
 > could lead to security problems since a hacker would only have to emulate a  
 > BBS broadcasting a single message to spread his nasties at little or no risk  
 > to himself.  
 >

Please, Charles, could you credit us with some sense? These issues are well known and have been addressed in all workable protocols (wire or radio) - what is the point of having any 'protocol' if it doesn't deliver the level of service that we require? All of these issues would be addressed in a real protocol - none (except the last - which isn't a protocol issue) are difficult to overcome.

--

Dirk-Jan Koopman            Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806  
 Computer Consultant       Email: djk@dirku.demon.co.uk or G1TLH@GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU  
 "The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is no more annoying than the piano when played by a sister or near relation." --Oscar Wilde

## 20. [BBSSIG:1472] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 08:39:17 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199508031339.IAA03396@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
 Subject: Re: BBS wishes

> ->  
 > ->     Bulletin ID: X bytes               # 10 or 12 bytes?  
 > ->     Type of Bulletin: 1 byte           # gives 256 categories, might want 2 bytes  
 > ->     Start address of data: 2 bytes      # max bulletin size is 65K  
 > ->     Flag: 1 byte                        # bit for compressed, bit for last, etc.  
 > ->     Data: xx bytes                       # the rest is data  
 > ->  
 >  
 > You would probably want some kind of sequence number in each packet so  
 > that the receiving client would know when it missed a packet...Then it

That's handled by the "Start Address" of data in the packet.

If a message length was 300 bytes and it was sent in 3 packets, the addresses respectively would be: 0, 100 and 200. If a receiving station had 100 bytes data starting at 0 and 200, it would know that it was missing the chunk in the middle (100 bytes starting at 100) and could either request a fill or wait until it heard the packet broadcast again. I believe it is better having the start address than block number because block sizes could vary between transmitting systems.

>

As for Charles observation that this could tie up a channel; the actual configuration and style of usage would be open to each area and BBS. I can envision a whole spectrum of configurations including the following:

1. A dedicated, multi-cast frequency. Here one BBS would continuously send and re-send the bulletins it has. Fills may or may not be requested on the same channel.
2. Sharing a frequency for multi-cast operation with standard AX25 connects from the dumb terminal model users. Here the multi-cast bulletins would be scaled back to something like one packet every minute. It would be a secondary user of the frequency allowing real-time users primary access.
3. A no-broadcast channel. No multi-cast broadcasts would be made. Clients listening would pick up bulletins as others requested them.

Having the technology available doesn't mean it has to be used or is even a good thing in every case.

> 73 de Mike,            ax.25net:     N6KUY@W6JBT.#SOCA.CA.USA.NOAM

73' Bill

Bill Vodall Box 75 Kevin, Mt 59454 1-406-337-2222  
Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

---

## 21. [BBSSIG:1473] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 08:41:16 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508031341.IAA03424@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: client/server

On Tue, 1 Aug 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:

[slice and dice!]

> >  
> >Are any of the bbs<>bbs protocol features worth plagiarizing?  
>  
> Perhaps we should plan on having the current BBS Protocol incorporated as a  
> subset of the new protocol. In that way current BBSs will be able to  
> communicate with noew systems.

Current protocol as in the preliminary specs? If so, would not our c/s  
needs be satisfied with lan-link and the like, perhaps extended with  
compression?

Howie

--  
Howard Goldstein  
N2WX

hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
<http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/>

---

## 22. [BBSSIG:1474] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 08:42:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508031342.IAA03446@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: client/server

OK...not a very scientific polling but thus far the replies received are  
silent on compression so

COMPRESSION: YES

On support for current protocol as the minimum standard: YES

On plaintext, one yes vote, one silent but inferred yes because of  
support for current protocol....YES

On header definition (I meant a way to compress the current message  
format's header)... Premature; NO

-----

This is encouraging in some ways and depending on how you look it it,  
discouraging in other ways. Keeping the optimistic view, I'll leave the  
latter for the depressed types and say it's encouraging in that it means  
the only thing to do is work up the compression and build the user  
interface.

Something as simple as throwing a compression handler on the front of  
LAN-LINK and the BBS code would do it.

Comments?

--  
Howard Goldstein

hg@n2wx.ampr.org

## 23. Help Wanted

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 09:13:37 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199508031413.JAA03563@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

As you can tell from Howie's post, some thoughts are starting to gel. It would be nice to have someone start to collect the comments on the SIG and begin to put them together in an organized document.

Is there anyone out there willing to help by maintaining a master document for the BBS/Client/Server spec?

Qualifications:

1. Good command of the English language and typing skills.
2. Experience with reading/writing specs would be a big help so requirements are phrased properly. Do you know what BNF means?
3. Sufficient tools to post/ftp documents in text and PS formats.

Please send me a private note if you are interested. (barry@ia.net)

Thanks,  
 Barry

## 24. [BBSSIG:1480] Multicast, some questions (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 12:22:49 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199508031722.MAA05006@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain  
 Sender: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>  
 Subject: Multicast, some questions

Before anybody goes off and tries to design a protocol, we have to decide some things. I shall try and outline the few I have thought of and perhaps later offer some solutions when anybody else interested has replied.

1. What do we want it to do? By that I mean, is this simply going to be a protocol for moving bulletins about (I know this is the BBSSIG!) or are we looking to use this in other areas for general purpose group communications, for example with 'chat' servers or DX clusters.

This choice does fundamentally affect the choice of class of multicast protocol design that we use, so it will bear a fair amount of discussion.

2. Having made the choice in 1) above do we go for
- a) an AX25 UI based system
  - b) an AX25 protocol with its own PID (a la netrom, tcp-ip)
  - c) something else (simpler?) either in plain HDLC or even possibly non-HDLC

3) Should the protocol itself be ASCII based ie the protocol headers, not the messages which I imagine will be compressed in some form or other. The idea being that this make the whole thing a bit more accessible. If that isn't an issue then we go BINARY (less overhead, but more opaque for those wanting to play or learn).

4) What is the role of FEC (forward error correction), I have available a software FEC algorithm which is 48:64 bit based which I am using in another life - I don't know whether it is suitable for use in a HDLC environment (one would have to defeat or redesign the use of the automatic CRC at the end of a HDLC frame to use it). Do we start the move away from AX25 now?

--

Dirk-Jan Koopman      Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806  
 Computer Consultant   Email: djc@dirku.demon.co.uk or G1TLH@GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU  
 "The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is no more annoying than the piano when played by a sister or near relation." --Oscar Wilde

## 25. [BBSSIG:1482] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 12:23:09 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <199508031723.MAA05013@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Jarl Kjell, KARL" <Kjell.Jarl@telub.se>  
Subject: Re: Multicast

In Germany, I have heard, they are having broadcast eperiments.  
Anyone got any information about that?

73  
Kjell SM7GVF

---

## 26. [BBSSIG:1483] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 12:25:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508031725.MAA05079@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: client/server

On Aug 3, 9:00am, Howard Goldstein wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1478] Re: client/server  
> On Tue, 1 Aug 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:  
>  
> [slice and dice!]  
>  
> >  
> > >Are any of the bbs<>bbs protocol features worth plagiarizing?  
> >  
> > Perhaps we should plan on having the current BBS Protocol incorporated as a  
> > subset of the new protocol. In that way current BBSs will be able to  
> > communicate with noew systems.  
>  
> Current protocol as in the preliminary specs? If so, would not our c/s  
> needs be satisfied with lan-link and the like, perhaps extended with  
> compression?

That sounds about right. Lan-link etc. appear to do most of what  
has been talked about to date. How about extending the existing  
spec to cover the requirements of programs like lan-link, so there  
is a basis for development of new codes using those protocols.

Compression should be a fairly simple extension to what already exists.

Question: do the authors of these programs read this group, and  
would they take on the task of documenting their protocols?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

---

## 27. [BBSSIG:1484] Re: Help Wanted (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 12:26:31 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508031726.MAA05090@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: Help Wanted

On Aug 3, 9:31am, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1481] Help Wanted  
> As you can tell from Howie's post, some thoughts are starting to gel.  
> It would be nice to havesomeone start to collect the comments on the  
> SIG and begin to put them together in an organized document.  
>  
> Is there anyone out there willing to help by maintaining a master  
> document for the BBS/Client/Server spec?

- >
- > Qualifications:
- > 1. Good command of the English language and typing skills.
- > 2. Experience with reading/writing specs would be a big help so
- > requirements are phrased properly. Do you know what BNF means?
- > 3. Sufficient tools to post/ftp documents in text and PS formats.

Assuming we start with the existing spec, we will need one more thing to make this work: the cooperation and assistance of "all" the software authors. I'm certainly willing to take part.

How about using either 1) plain text (the tack we took when we constructed the original spec) or 2) Microsoft word (most widely available word processing program)?

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM |                    |

## 28. [BBSSIG:1485] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 12:29:08 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199508031729.MAA05116@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
 Subject: Re: Multicast

According to Dirk-Jan...

```
>> Another factor to consider is that not that many packet ops are willing to
>> either dedicate a computer to 24 hr/day packet, or slow down thier computers
>> through multitasking so that they can catch fragments of many bulletins they
>> are unlikely to have any personal interest in. The buffers in TNC's aren't
>> up to the task, so this means that someone's hard-drive will have to take
>> the wear 'n tear involved in storing all that stuff. This means that even
>> within the area of direct coverage, only a small percentage of the packet
>> ops would be in a position to make use of the multicasting feature, and many
>> out of that group simply wouldn't feel it would be worth the wear 'n tear on
>> thier hard-drives. (This could be offset somewhat by having the client
>> system only attempt to store bulletins addressed to the user's preference.)
>
```

```
>Whilst I agree that there may be some who don't wish to partake of such
>a service and don't want to dedicate (a part) of their machine to this
>does not mean that a lot of others won't. As I have said in the past -
>nobody is going to stop those people from carrying on as they have; but
>this must not, in its turn, stifle new thought or ways of doing things
>that DO want to partake.
>
```

I seriously doubt that my observations will stifle anything. They're just observations. ( And one suggestion. )

The point still stands, though. We're better off in working at systems which average hams will use, since average hams are what we have to work with. We can discuss new systems which require LINUX, or even systems which require two 486's in tandem to use if we wanted to.. We can also discuss how many angels can dance on the head of a pin. The point I'm making is that we would be doing more good by looking at ideas which are a little more on the practical and realistic side, with as close to universal utility as we can approach..

The more hams which will benifit from a new idea, the better the idea is. If you leave the needs of the average ham out of your consideration, you're also leaving out most hope of your idea being usable on any significant scale.

If the idea has no wide-spread utility, no BBS author will implement it. If no BBS author implements the idea, you've just wasted any time you spent discussing it.

>As for you comments on 'wear and tear'; I have actually implemented various

>versions of broadcast protocols in the past and can say that, at the  
>speeds we operate at (up to 9600 baud, in normal user service) there is  
>NO disc thrashing, buffer overflowing etc.  
>

It's not really a question of speed, but rather one of volume. . Processing  
a large volume of info will have a definite "wear 'n tear" effect. Speed  
affects how much TIME is available to process this same volume of info.

>> With my limited imagination, I can't see ANY circumstances where  
>> transmitting all bulletins would be useful, especially in a crowded urban RF  
>> environment. I don't doubt that there has been a proposal at a past DCC to  
>> do this, but I do doubt that the idea makes any sense here in the real  
world..  
>

>Unfortunately Charles, there are a number of us out here who can. I  
>wonder whether you could do us the courtesy of allowing the discussion  
>of the technicalities without coming down quite so heavily agin, simply  
>because you can't see its usefulness at the moment. Hopefully the  
>discussion will demonstrate the idea's utility to you in due course.  
>

I don't think it's unfortunate that others see utility in the idea. I  
brought up some issues which I felt should be addressed. If they can be  
handled sucessfully, I'll be tickled pink, not disappointed.  
The discussion has been going on for several days, and the points I brought  
up hadn't been addressed.  
The discussion of technicalities of an idea which hasn't been examined yet  
for basic usability really IS a waste of time. In this respect, my  
observations might very well lead to a great reduction in the amount of time  
wasted here on the SIG.  
Still, they are just observations, and it's doubtful that a dissenting word  
will bring all development to a screaming halt. I think you're being a bit  
too touchy. If the idea has merit, it will hold up fine if me or anyone else  
questions some aspect of it.

>> If you are recieving bulletins from the west, and sending them east ( for  
>> example ) it would have little if any utility.  
>> Also, you're asking an awful lot of the software at the BBS. It would no  
>> longer be good enough to simply store each message seperately.. Now you need  
>> to store each BLOCK of each message seperately ( Or spend a lot of  
>> processing time and hard-drive grinding ) so that you can come up with  
>> seperate blocks from particular messages at random times, in a timely  
>> fashion.. If ANYTHING changes in a bulletin ( Header stripper, normalizer,  
>> SYSOP editing of bad address, addition of R:headers, ect. ) then the blocks  
>> would also then differ, causing problems.  
>> Forwarding block sizes would have to be standardized, so that means that the  
>> "standard" would have to be useful for the worst possible forwarding  
>> scenario. You couldn't use larger forwarding blocks on better paths. This  
>> alone would offset much of the advantage gained by multicast forwarding.  
>> Another drain on the software would be the fact that the BBS would have to  
>> be "listening" at all times, constantly checking to see if what it 'hears"  
>> is a genuine bulletin from another BBS. That takes up resources as well, and  
>> could lead to security problems since a hacker would only have to emulate a  
>> BBS broadcasting a single message to spread his nasties at little or no risk  
>> to himself.  
>>  
>

>Please, Charles, could you credit us with some sense? These issues are  
>well known and have been addressed in all workable protocols (wire or  
>radio) - what is the point of having any 'protocol' if it doesn't deliver  
>the level of service that we require? All of these issues would be  
>addressed in a real protocol - none (except the last - which isn't a  
>protocol issue) are difficult to overcome.  
>

On the other hand, what is the point in requiring a level of service which  
is unrealistic?

Not all of the issues I brought up have been addressed in all protocols.  
Most of them were quite to the point, and related directly to the subject at  
hand.. ( Multicast )  
No-one has appointed me as the arbiter of what can and can not be discussed.  
If they did, I'd tell them to take the job and shove it, since I believe  
that progress is best accomplished under freedom of expression.  
Political systems which have stifled free expression have always ended up  
being rather backward and underdeveloped compared to ones which encouraged  
free speech. It's always been that way, and always will be.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

I was gratified to be able to answer the question promptly..  
I said I didn't know.

---

## 29. [BBSSIG:1491] Re: Multicast, some questions (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 17:02:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508032202.RAA07198@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: Multicast, some questions

On Aug 3, 12:26pm, Dirk-Jan Koopman wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1486] Multicast, some questions  
> Before anybody goes off and tries to design a protocol, we have to decide  
> some things. I shall try and outline the few I have thought of and perhaps  
> later offer some solutions when anybody else interested has replied.  
>  
> 1. What do we want it to do? By that I mean, is this simply going to be a  
> protocol for moving bulletins about (I know this is the BBSSIG!) or are  
> we looking to use this in other areas for general purpose group  
> communications, for example with 'chat' servers or DX clusters.

Very good point. My own view is that we should address at least  
three areas: 1) email exchange; 2) point-to-multipoint (chat)  
services; 3) use of unconnected and other less than totally reliable  
modes.

> This choice does fundamentally affect the choice of class of multicast  
> protocol design that we use, so it will bear a fair amount of discussion.  
>  
> 2. Having made the choice in 1) above do we go for  
> a) an AX25 UI based system  
> b) an AX25 protocol with its own PID (a la netrom, tcp-ip)  
> c) something else (simpler?) either in plain HDLC or even possibly  
> non-HDLC

Or another choice:

d) higher level protocols which use ax.25, NET/ROM, ip, tcp  
as their transport layer. e.g. the bbs spec addresses  
issues in layer 5 and above.

> 3) Should the protocol itself be ASCII based ie the protocol headers, not  
> the messages which I imagine will be compressed in some form or other.  
> The idea being that this make the whole thing a bit more accessible. If  
> that isn't an issue then we go BINARY (less overhead, but more opaque for  
> those wanting to play or learn).

Perhaps this choice will fall out of the choice we make in 2).

> 4) What is the role of FEC (forward error correction), I have available a  
> software FEC algorithm which is 48:64 bit based which I am using in  
> another life - I don't know whether it is suitable for use in a HDLC  
> environment (one would have to defeat or redesign the use of the  
> automatic CRC at the end of a HDLC frame to use it). Do we start the move  
> away from AX25 now?

Perhaps as part of our choice in 1) this will also fall out.

In my opinion, 1) is the most important choice: which application  
domains are we attempting to serve?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

Library Operations  
"Parts 'R Us!"

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## 30. [BBSSIG:1492] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 17:05:58 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508032205.RAA07233@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Re: client/server

Howie, N2WX wrote:

>Current protocol as in the preliminary specs? If so, would not our c/s  
>needs be satisfied with lan-link and the like, perhaps extended with  
>compression?

If we're discussing meeting currently perceived "needs", then I'd say almost but not quite. However, if we're looking towards the future I'd say no.

As I mentioned earlier, I think we need to add a standardized "long" list format which includes message IDs (MIDs) and a means to request messages based upon MIDs.

And no, I do not think use of message numbers local to a particular BBS is sufficient.

Say an individual decides he wants a particular message, but after it's been killed on the BBS his system normally interacts with. If the protocol uses the message number on that particular BBS then he's out of luck. But, if the MID is used he'll be able to "point" his client software at an alternate BBS and possibly retrieve the message.

If we add another new element -- a list of killed messages, by MID, from the server to the client -- the client software can keep it's list of available messages in sync with the server.

Even more powerful is another application of this element -- the ability to distribute complete message lists from Hub BBSs to outlying BBSs, but only the complete text of those messages the outlying BBS sysop configures his system to request. Users of outlying systems could list messages available "by request" as well as those available (full text) on the local system.

Attempts to read (manually, by a "keyboard" user) or request (in the case of a c/s client) a message for which text is not available locally could generate a request to the system containing the text for the text, and a reply to the requestor that the message is being obtained. When the text arrives at the BBS it is both stored (as if it had arrived normally, until the message is killed) and sent to the requestor.

Something else we should look at, as others have already written, is Usenet-style newsgroups. This could be as simple as adding RFC-822 style Newsgroup headers to bulletins which could be used by BBS software in whatever way the author chooses. Or, we could do that and also add the newsgroup to the long list format I mentioned above. Doing so would provide an additional criterion BBSs and Client software users could use for automated bulletin selection/rejection.

So, I do think the current BBS spec is a good starting point, but there are a few things which, if added, will greatly enhance our capabilities.

73, Andy

--

\_\_\_\_\_  
| Tech Producer/Editor                      Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |  
| WCBS-TV Channel 2 News                      http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |  
| New York, NY USA                      Writing for my self, not my employer! |

---

### 31. [BBSSIG:1493] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 17:06:24 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508032206.RAA07246@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: martins@abqato.scs.philips.com (Steve Martin x7274)  
Subject: Re: client/server

On Thu, 3 Aug 1995, Howard wrote:

> On support for current protocol as the minimum standard: YES



Is there a published standard for the "current protocol"? No flames please. I would like to read it over if there is.

---

### 32. [BBSSIG:1494] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 17:09:07 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508032209.RAA07275@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Multicast

I feel that no-one is reading what I write! For heaven sakes lets talk about things THAT EXIST TODAY!! and then depart from there as intellegent discussion takes us.

Case in point: FBB today can be setup to transmitt the Title of every message as it enters the pbbs. This title is read by all the hams in the area with a special Client software.

The ham can at his own time read the titles and mark any that he wants to read. At his command he tells his software to fetch the selected mail. It connects to the Server pbbs and orders the messages. The Server (FBB) sends the traffic all at once using the standard compression of FBB.

Now this Client software is not GUI. It is a DOS software. But the guy who wrote it is still alive and can be reached by packet radio if not the internet. Of course I'm talking about TPK.

Consider this: If TPK could be made GUI, using visual C for instance then very little new code would need to be done. I think this is a better approach.

I am a scientist with the US Army Laboratory. When we determine a need for a new widget, we see if anyone has already made it! Then we look at what's written about the subject. We then buy some things to try and test with.

In what is called the scientific method we gain more information as we begin the widget design. Once we are confident the design is right we farm the project out to Industry for some "evaluation" samples. ECT...

It seems to me we have all the parts to a Client-Server system already in the world. Why begin a New Design before we can show what exists is not adequate? Let's start a Project to GUI the TPK software. This is a very well designed project since we know the desired outcome:ie that it work just like it does in DOS, but be a Windows program with all the normal Windows features.

-karl

---

### 33. [BBSSIG:1495] Re: Multicast, some questions (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 19:52:59 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508040052.TAA08121@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: jra1854@tntech.edu (Jeffrey Austen)  
Subject: Re: Multicast, some questions

- >1. What do we want it to do?  
...- >2. Having made the choice in 1) above do we go for
  - > a) an AX25 UI based system
  - > b) an AX25 protocol with its own PID (a la netrom, tcp-ip)
  - > c) something else (simpler?) either in plain HDLC or even possibly non-HDLC
- ...- >3) Should the protocol itself be ASCII based  
...- >4) What is the role of FEC (forward error correction)

All good questions but some of them can be answered by one word: layering. There needs to be several protocols developed, or found, and there is no need to "reinvent the wheel." Each protocol should do only one thing and it should do it well. The functions could be divided as follows.

- 6 Bulletin and Mail distribution protocol - assumes reliable links and can take advantage of multicast, if available
- 5 Data compression
- 4 Reliable connection protocol - point-to-point or multicast as needed
- 3 Unreliable packet protocol
- 2 FEC in software or hardware
- 1 Hardware (e.g., radios)

6 is the BBS exchange protocol, with additions.

5 has many well-known solutions and we just need to pick one.

3 and 4 can be provided by TCP/IP, AX.25, ROSE, NETROM, ISDN, ATM and many others. The only new things here are that many protocols don't support multicast and that our radio links are slower and less reliable than most others so number 4 has to be pretty good at handling errors.

2 doesn't exist currently, except in things like CLOVER and PACTOR (which actually include a lot of 3 and 4), but there is certainly a need for building it into the next generation of digital radios. 1 is the radios. In my opinion, number 1 and 2 ought to be in the same box, that is the digital radio should provide us with a better link than we now have...but that's probably something for a different group (netsig?).

As to the original questions, my answers are:

- number six (the BBS exchange protocol)
- not relevant;
- I prefer ASCII as it is easier to work with (look at SMTP, NNTP, etc);
- not relevant.

Jeff, k9ja

---

Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University  
jra1854@tntech.edu | Box 5004  
+1 615 372 3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

---

### 34. [BBSSIG:1496] Re: Multicast, some questions (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 19:53:25 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508040053.TAA08138@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From bbssig@tapr.org Thu Aug 3 17:24:30 1995  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 17:17:25 -0500  
Message-Id: <199508032202.RAA07198@zeus.ia.net>  
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
Precedence: bulk  
From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1496] Re: Multicast, some questions  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
Content-Length: 3882  
Content-Type: text  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

On Aug 3, 12:26pm, Dirk-Jan Koopman wrote:

- > Subject: [BBSSIG:1486] Multicast, some questions
- > Before anybody goes off and tries to design a protocol, we have to decide
- > some things. I shall try and outline the few I have thought of and perhaps
- > later offer some solutions when anybody else interested has replied.
- >
- > 1. What do we want it to do? By that I mean, is this simply going to be a
- > protocol for moving bulletins about (I know this is the BBSSIG!) or are
- > we looking to use this in other areas for general purpose group
- > communications, for example with 'chat' servers or DX clusters.

Very good point. My own view is that we should address at least three areas: 1) email exchange; 2) point-to-multipoint (chat)

services; 3) use of unconnected and other less than totally reliable modes.

> This choice does fundamentally affect the choice of class of multicast  
> protocol design that we use, so it will bear a fair amount of discussion.  
>  
> 2. Having made the choice in 1) above do we go for  
> a) an AX25 UI based system  
> b) an AX25 protocol with its own PID (a la netrom, tcp-ip)  
> c) something else (simpler?) either in plain HDLC or even possibly  
> non-HDLC

Or another choice:

d) higher level protocols which use ax.25, NET/ROM, ip, tcp  
as their transport layer. e.g. the bbs spec addresses  
issues in layer 5 and above.

> 3) Should the protocol itself be ASCII based ie the protocol headers, not  
> the messages which I imagine will be compressed in some form or other.  
> The idea being that this make the whole thing a bit more accessible. If  
> that isn't an issue then we go BINARY (less overhead, but more opaque for  
> those wanting to play or learn).

Perhaps this choice will fall out of the choice we make in 2).

> 4) What is the role of FEC (forward error correction), I have available a  
> software FEC algorithm which is 48:64 bit based which I am using in  
> another life - I don't know whether it is suitable for use in a HDLC  
> environment (one would have to defeat or redesign the use of the  
> automatic CRC at the end of a HDLC frame to use it). Do we start the move  
> away from AX25 now?

Perhaps as part of our choice in 1) this will also fall out.

In my opinion, 1) is the most important choice: which application  
domains are we attempting to serve?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

### 35. [BBSSIG:1500] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 19:53:50 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508040053.TAA08151@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: Multicast

On Aug 3, 5:21pm, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1499] Re: Multicast  
> I feel that no-one is reading what I write! For heaven sakes lets  
> talk about things THAT EXIST TODAY!! and then depart from there as  
> intellegent discussion takes us.  
>  
> Case in point: FBB today can be setup to transmitt the Title of  
> every message as it enters the pbbs. This title is read by all the hams  
> in the area with a special Client software.

Good example. Is there a document which describes the protocol used,  
so that others could code to it?

<snip>

>  
> It seems to me we have all the parts to a Client-Server system  
> already in the world. Why begin a New Design before we can show what  
> exists is not adequate? Let's start a Project to GUI the TPK software.  
> This is a very well designed project since we know the desired outcome:ie

> that it work just like it does in DOS, but be a Windows program with all  
> the normal Windows features.

I agree; the main parts of what we need are already in place.  
What is missing is a document describing what already exists,  
so that software creators can create software to make use of  
these existing features.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

### 36. [BBSSIG:1501] Re: Help Wanted (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 19:54:31 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508040054.TAA08170@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Subject: Re: Help Wanted

On Thu, 3 Aug 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> Assuming we start with the existing spec, we will need one more  
> thing to make this work: the cooperation and assistance of "all"  
> the software authors. I'm certainly willing to take part.

I'm in (and so is TNOS ;-) Any work done on TNOS can be placed into JNOS  
quite easily.

> How about using either 1) plain text (the tack we took when we  
> constructed the original spec) or 2) Microsoft word (most widely  
> available word processing program)?

plain text is ALWAYS best.....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz        <http://www.lantz.com>        brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
    while (memory\_available)        {  
        eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
        if (feel\_like\_it)  
            make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);  
        gates\_bank\_balance++;  
    }

---

### 37. [BBSSIG:1506] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 21:40:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508040240.VAA09114@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Multicast

According to Karl..

>        I feel that no-one is reading what I write! For heaven sakes lets  
> talk about things THAT EXIST TODAY!! and then depart from there as  
> intellegent discussion takes us.

>

>

I'm reading you, Karl. After reading your posting , I'd have to say that  
you have hit the nail exactly on the head.

The TPK program has a few warts, but is way ahead of anything else along  
those lines.

Besides the GUI, I'd like to see the following features added..

1. Easier install, with a more user-friendly ( idiot proof ) install program.
2. RLI X-compression, and NNA Block forwarding capability. ( In other words, make it usable with ALL existing compression strategies, not just FBB compression. ) This would of course work only the other BBS software would at the same time include the message title broadcasts. ( I know.. That's easy to SAY, isn't it? )
3. Have the GUI version backed up by a smaller. faster version without GUI as well, for guys with "smaller" machines.
4. Support for more "flavors" of TNC's, ect.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Getting older can be pretty tough, but it's still much better than the alternative.

---

### 38. [BBSSIG:1507] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 3 Aug 1995 21:41:01 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508040241.VAA09121@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Multicast

>On Aug 3, 5:21pm, Karl F. Larsen wrote:  
>> Subject: [BBSSIG:1499] Re: Multicast  
>> I feel that no-one is reading what I write! For heaven sakes lets  
>> talk about things THAT EXIST TODAY!! and then depart from there as  
>> intelligent discussion takes us.  
>>  
>> Case in point: FBB today can be setup to transmitt the Title of  
>> every message as it enters the pbbbs. This title is read by all the hams  
>> in the area with a special Client software.  
>  
>Good example. Is there a document which describes the protocol used,  
>so that others could code to it?  
>  
There is some info in FBB's docs about the broadcast of the message titles  
and so on, but not as much as I'd like to see. On the other hand, it's a  
pretty straightforward process, and probably isn't very complicated.  
>  
>> It seems to me we have all the parts to a Client-Server system  
>> already in the world. Why begin a New Design before we can show what  
>> exists is not adequate? Let's start a Project to GUI the TPK software.  
>> This is a very well designed project since we know the desired outcome:ie  
>> that it work just like it does in DOS, but be a Windows program with all  
>> the normal Windows features.  
>  
>I agree; the main parts of what we need are already in place.  
>What is missing is a document describing what already exists,  
>so that software creators can create software to make use of  
>these existing features.  
>  
TPK's docs don't include the info needed, as far as I can tell. Is the  
author of TPK hanging out here on the SIG? If not, does somebody here  
communicate with him?

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Getting older can be pretty tough, but it's still much better than the alternative.

---

### 39. [BBSSIG:1510] Re: Multicast (was:wish list) (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 4 Aug 1995 08:16:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508041316.IAA15775@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "John M. Wilcox" <0005018901@mcimail.com>  
Subject: Re: Multicast (was:wish list)

Why would a BBS broadcast its bulletins all the time? The way the PacSats do it is they only broadcast the directory on a regular basis. The clients observe the directory noting which msgs are relevant to their wish list. Any one of the clients will request the specific bulletin he is interested in. All clients will see the broadcast of this message. If it is one that an observing client is interested in, he copies and saves what he hears. Missing a part? Request it from the server as a fill. I suspect that fill requests will be minimal since the LAN users SHOULD have good paths to the server. Bad path? Well, sound like motivation for putting up another server...

John/NS1Z  
5018901 @ mcimail.com

---

#### 40. [BBSSIG:1511] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 4 Aug 1995 08:17:11 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508041317.IAA15788@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Multicast

On Thu, 3 Aug 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

> Good example. Is there a document which describes the protocol used,  
> so that others could code to it?

I'm not an FBB person, but I think I remember reading in FBB docs an appendix on the protocols used for compressed forwarding, FBB style.

Can one of our FBB "experts" cut that sections out of the docs and send to Hank to look at?

73, de Bill, N3JIX

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg University \*  
\* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ \*\*\*\*\*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

#### 41. [BBSSIG:1514] What shall we do? (was Re: Re: Multicast, some , questions) (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 4 Aug 1995 19:09:33 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508050009.TAA21273@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: What shall we do? (was Re: Re: Multicast, some , questions)

On Thu, 3 Aug 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

..  
>  
> Very good point. My own view is that we should address at least  
> three areas: 1) email exchange; 2) point-to-multipoint (chat)  
> services; 3) use of unconnected and other less than totally reliable  
> modes.  
..  
> In my opinion, 1) is the most important choice: which application  
> domains are we attempting to serve?  
>

Can we proceed as a group before answering Hanks question 1)? Doesn't seem like it'd be possible. I vote for email exchange.

Howie

---

## 42. [BBSSIG:1515] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 4 Aug 1995 19:09:58 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508050009.TAA21282@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: client/server

On Thu, 3 Aug 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:

>  
> As I mentioned earlier, I think we need to add a standardized "long" list  
> format which includes message IDs (MIDs) and a means to request messages  
> based upon MIDs.  
>

Does anyone dislike Andrew's idea? I'd love it, would add one thing to it, ability to do searches on the message base. Result: distributed data base.

--  
Howard Goldstein  
N2WX

hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
<http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/>

---

## 43. [BBSSIG:1516] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 4 Aug 1995 19:11:12 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508050011.TAA21301@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: client/server

--  
--PART-BOUNDARY=.19508040931.ZM5168.hanko  
Encoding: 19 TEXT  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

On Aug 3, 5:19pm, Steve Martin x7274 wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1498] Re: client/server  
> On Thu, 3 Aug 1995, Howard wrote:  
>  
> > On support for current protocol as the minimum standard: YES  
>  
> Is there a published standard for the "current protocol"? No flames  
> please. I would like to read it over if there is.

It is attached below:

--  
  
Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

--PART-BOUNDARY=.19508040931.ZM5168.hanko  
Encoding: 866 text  
X-Zm-Content-Name: bbs\_spec.doc  
Content-Type: text/plain ; charset=us-ascii

Changes:

CTL-C not really restricted character?  
LF not used as alternate EOL  
Added info from AA4RE on "M in SID".  
Added info from W0RLI on "X in SID".

Legal character set for BID?

.. Hank

BBS Interface Specification  
Working Draft  
11/28/93

Introduction  
Section 1 - Establishing connection  
Section 2 - Forwarding  
Section 3 - Reverse forwarding  
Section 4 - Forwarding to old BBSs  
Section 5 - Error Conditions  
Section 6 - BNF Summary  
Section 7 - Feature Letter Use

Current mailing list  
BBS\_authors@arasmith.com

bob@arasmith.com (Bob Arasmith, N0ARY)  
hank\_oredson@mentorg.com (Hank Oredson, W0RLI)  
wd6cmu@netcom.com (Eric Williams, WD6CMU)  
enge@almaden.ibm.com (Roy Engehausen, AA4RE)  
71151.720@CompuServe.COM (Victor Poor, W5SMM)  
blloyd@axion.bt.co.uk (Brian Lloyd, G1NNA)  
map@hopper.cba.csuohio.edu (Mike Pechura, WA8BXN)  
durham@w2xo.pgh.pa.us (James Durham, W2X0)  
johan@ece.orst.edu (Johannes Reinalda, WG7J)  
trentin@enac.dgac.fr (to J-P Roubelat, F6FBB)  
sproul@sproul.com (Mark Sproul, KB2ICI)  
mike@km6px.arasmith.com (Mike Stickney, KM6PX)  
70007.1365@compuserve.com (Ed Juge, W5T00)  
73126.3260@compuserve.com (Craig McCartney, WA8DRZ)  
bbr77@aol.com (Brian Riley, KA2BQE)

Via US Mail

Michael Jaggers, WB4TTZ  
1377 Columbia Ave, Franklin, TN 37064

Introduction -  
This document is meant to define the interaction between two BBSs exchanging messages. It is not the goal of the document to specify the interface of the future but merely represent what a BBS can be expected to see at the current time.

It is hoped that this specification will be followed by another that defines the base rules for all BBS programs to adopt. This should eliminate the current problems with incompatibilities and overloaded operators. If you create a BBS to this specification you should be able to interconnect with virtually any BBS currently in use. Any extensions you add will put you at risk, the subsequent spec is to identify these areas.

In brief the following sequence of events takes place when the BBSs connect for forwarding:

| Master System                      | Slave System     |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| -----                              | -----            |
| {Connect}                          |                  |
|                                    | [SID]<br>N9ZZZ > |
| [SID]                              |                  |
|                                    | >                |
| SB ARES @ ALLCA < W7ZZZ \$ARES0108 |                  |
|                                    | OK               |
| message subject                    |                  |
| message routing headers            |                  |
| message body                       |                  |
| Control-Z                          |                  |



```

>
SB WANT @ ALLUS < W8AAA $1029_N0XYZ

NO
>

F>

SP WA2ABC @ N2AAA < N9AAA

OK

message subject
message routing headers
message body
Control-Z

F>

{Disconnect}

```

This represents a simple example of connecting, establishing a common protocol, forwarding and reverse forwarding. This document will look more closely at each of these phases.

In the text the BBS initiating the connect will be referred to as the MASTER and the remote BBS will be referred to as the SLAVE.

Each command and exchange will be presented in BNF (Backus-Naur Form) which is a context-free grammar widely used to describe computer language syntax.

All commands and fields are case insensitive.

#### Meta-syntactic information

```

[x] = Optional: zero or one x
(x y) = Grouping: treat multiple tokens as a single token
<> = Set

```

#### Characters:

```

NUL = <0x00>
CNTRL_C = <0x03>
TAB = <0x09>
CR = <0x0D>
LF = <0x0A>
CNTRL_Z = <0x1A>
SP = <0x20>

```

#### Character sets:

```

ALPHA = <'A'-'Z'>
DIGIT = <'0'-'9'>
ALNUM = ALPHA | DIGIT
ASCII = <0x20-0x7F>
SPACE = SP | TAB
8BIT = <0x01 - 0xff, except CR, LF, CNTRL_Z>

```

#### Character sequences:

```

EOL = CR | CR LF

NUMBER = DIGIT | NUMBER DIGIT
WHITE = SPACE | WHITE SPACE

ASCII_STR = ASCII | ASCII_STR ASCII
ALNUM_STR = ALNUM | ALNUM_STR ALNUM
8BIT_STR = 8BIT | 8BIT_STR 8BIT

```

Throughout this document we will present a verbose translation of the grammar highlighting any points that may not be obvious but could have significant affect. There will also be examples illustrating what can actually be expected.

#### Section 1 - Establishing connection

When connecting to a BBS the first line the BBS sends must be the SID (System Identifier). The SID is used to determine what features are supported by BBS. The existence of the SID implies that the system supports reverse forwarding and OK/NO message rejection. There still exist old BBS codes which do not present a SID at connect. Refer to Section 4 for information on forwarding to these old style BBS systems.

SID sent by both MASTER and SLAVE

```
AUTHOR_ID = <ASCII_STR, except '[' , ']' and '-'>
AUTHOR_DATA = <ASCII_STR, except '[' and ']'>
FEATURE = ALPHA [DIGIT]
FEATURE_LIST = FEATURE | FEATURE_LIST FEATURE
SID = "[" AUTHOR_ID "-" [AUTHOR_DATA "-"] FEATURE_LIST [$]" EOL
```

The AUTHOR\_ID and FEATURE\_SET must be present. If the optional AUTHOR\_DATA is present it must be separated from the other two fields by a '-'. AUTHOR\_DATA may contain the '-' character.

The AUTHOR\_ID and AUTHOR\_DATA are typically a portion of the authors callsign or BBS name and version number, respectively.

Each FEATURE consists of a letter, denoting the feature and an optional number, denoting the feature level. The absence of a version number implies version zero.

If BID's are supported, '\$' must be the last symbol in the FEATURE\_SET.

The recommended minimal support is BID and Hierarchical location identifiers. These are necessary for the proper operation of the network.

EXAMPLE

```
[ZFJ-2.3-H$]
```

The original prompt received from the SLAVE BBS may contain additional information intended for users. As soon as the SID is received by the SLAVE BBS it should respond with an abbreviated PROMPT, with the ASCII\_STR field being empty.  
Section 2 - Forwarding

A message can either be rejected or accepted by the SLAVE. There are many reasons that the SLAVE may choose to reject a message but the most common will be duplicate bid, indicating the SLAVE already has the message. Here is an overview of the exchange.

ACCEPT EXCHANGE:

|          |               |
|----------|---------------|
| MASTER   | SLAVE         |
| -----    | -----         |
|          | PROMPT        |
| SEND_CMD |               |
|          | RESPONSE (OK) |
| MESSAGE  |               |
|          | COMMENT       |
|          | PROMPT        |

REJECT EXCHANGE:

|          |               |
|----------|---------------|
| MASTER   | SLAVE         |
| -----    | -----         |
|          | PROMPT        |
| SEND_CMD |               |
|          | RESPONSE (NO) |
|          | PROMPT        |

The SLAVE indicates it's prepared to accept a command by issuing a PROMPT. The PROMPT is also used as an acknowledgement that the last message has been received.

The MASTER initiates the message exchange by issuing a SEND\_CMD. This command contains all the information necessary for the SLAVE to decide whether to ACCEPT or REJECT the message. It contains message type, destination, originator and possibly a bid.

```
COMMENT = <ASCII_STR, except '>'>
PROMPT = [COMMENT] ">" EOL
```

```

TYPE = 'B' | 'P' | 'T'
CALLSIGN = <ASCII_STR, except '@', '.', max length 6>
LOC = <ASCII_STR, except '@', '.', max length 6>
HLOC = LOC | <HLOC "." LOC, max length 31>
BBS = CALLSIGN ["." HLOC]
TO = CALLSIGN [WHITE "@" WHITE BBS]
FROM = CALLSIGN
BID = <ASCII_STR, max length 12>

SEND_CMD = "S" TYPE WHITE TO [WHITE "<" WHITE FROM] [WHITE "$" BID]

```

HLOC is the hierarchical location of the system. It is defined by the document "INTERNATIONAL ROUTING DESIGNATORS", ARRL Networking Conference Proceedings xxx.

The TO field commonly takes the following forms:

```

callsign @ BBS.hloc ; N6ZPJ @ N6QMY.CA.USA.NA
category @ distrib ; WANT @ ALLCA
category @ BBS.hloc ; WANT @ N6QMY.CA.USA.NA
category @ distrib.hloc ; INFO @ ALLCA.CA.USA.NA

```

The first two are seen most often, but the other two forms are seen. The first two forms are also normally associated with the message type of PERSONAL and BULLETIN respectively.

White space is required on either side of the '@' and between the '<' and the senders callsign. There cannot be white space between the '\$' and the BID.

#### EXAMPLE

```
SB WANT @ ALLSCV < N6ZPJ $2345_N6QMY
```

A "BID" (Bulletin IDentifier) is associated with each Bulletin, and may be associated with any Personal message.

If a BID is not given explicitly when the message is entered into the system, and the message type requires a BID, one is created automatically from the message number and callsign of the system into which the message was initially entered.

#### NOTE:

It is suggested that a generated BID have the form nnn\_BBS, where nnn is the message number at the originating BBS system, and BBS is the callsign of the originating BBS system.

```
COMMON_BID = MSG_NUM "-" CALLSIGN
```

BBS codes are free to create whatever form they wish as long as the length doesn't exceed 12 characters.

Messages to a distribution, whether they are bulletins or personal messages, must have a BID. Personal messages to a specific user may carry a BID if the user supplied one, but will not be given a default BID. NTS message never carry a BID.

The SLAVE BBS determines from the SEND\_CMD whether or not to accept the message. The reasons for rejection is usually that the message already exists on the SLAVE system (i.e. a duplicate BID), or possibly a system related problem.

Sent by SLAVE in response to SEND\_CMD (or by MASTER if in reverse forward mode).

```
RESPONSE = ACCEPT | REJECT
```

```
ACCEPT = "OK" [WHITE COMMENT] EOL
```

```
REJECT = "N" ["O"] [WHITE COMMENT] EOL
```

#### NOTE:

The syntax of responses has grown in a random fashion. Many BBS programs expect to see the entire words "OK" and "NO" while others simply look at the first letter. It is suggested that new BBS codes should present the

words "NO" and "OK", but look for only the first letter. Doing so should ensure compatibility with existing BBS codes.

#### EXAMPLE

```
Master: SB WANT @ ALLCAN < N6ZFJ $4567_N0ARY
Slave: NO duplicate bid
Slave: >

Master: SB WANT @ ALLCAN < N6ZFJ $4567_N0ARY
Slave: OK #32190
Master: message body
Master: Control-Z
Slave: Message being held for sysop review
Slave: >
```

It is required that the "OK" and "NO" strings be followed by white space or EOL. Some BBS programs will fail to recognize them otherwise.

#### EXAMPLE

```
Master: SB WANT @ ALLCAN < N6ZFJ $4567_N0ARY
Slave: NO, already have it
Slave: >
```

This would fail with some existing BBS codes due to the comma following the "NO" string.

If the SLAVE BBS responds with a REJECT condition the message should not be sent and the MASTER should ignore any response from the SLAVE until PROMPT is encountered. The MASTER can then submit a new SEND\_CMD, initiate reverse forwarding or disconnect.

Once the SLAVE has issued the ACCEPT response, the MASTER BBS should immediately send the message subject, routing headers, message body and EOMA. The SLAVE will acknowledge with PROMPT once it receives an EOMA.

#### Message Routing Header

```
SUBJECT = <ASCII_STR, max length 79> EOL
YEAR = DIGIT DIGIT
MONTH = DIGIT DIGIT
DAY = DIGIT DIGIT
HOUR = DIGIT DIGIT
MINUTE = DIGIT DIGIT

STAMP = "R:" YEAR MONTH DAY "/" HOUR MINUTE ["Z"]
MSG_NUM = <NUMBER, range 1 - 65535 (0xFFFF)>

HEADER1 = STAMP WHITE MSG_NUM "@" BBS EOL
HEADER2 = STAMP WHITE "@" BBS WHITE [ASCII_STR] "#:" MSG_NUM [ASCII_STR]
HEADER = HEADER1 | HEADER2
```

#### Message structure

```
HEADERS = HEADER | HEADERS HEADER
EOMA = CNTRL_Z EOL
EOMB = EOL "/"EX" EOL
BODY = 8BIT_STR | BODY EOL 8BIT_STR
MESSAGE = SUBJECT [HEADERS] EOL [BODY] (EOMA | EOMB)
```

#### EXAMPLE

```
Example message
R:930108/1729 @:N6QMY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA Fremont #:1114 Z:94536
R:930108/1259 1530@KA6FUB.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA
R:930107/1638z @:WD6CMU.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA "OSKbox" #:10576 Z:94805
R:930107/1045 50724@WX3K.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA
```

message body will go here, the blank line above separates the body from the routing headers. When the body is through it should be terminated as follows:  
^Z

#### NOTE:

Both forms of the header described above are seen, and should be parsed. In either case there may be comments found at the end of the header line, or between the BBS and the MSG\_NUM entries in HEADER2.

HEADER2 is derived from the header form used in early BBS codes. it allows additional information to be passed in the header and parsed if desired. Some examples of these additional fields seen are:

```
Z:zipcode
O:originator
$:bid
C:name_of_sysops_cat
```

NOTE:

The time stamp in the routing header must be in GMT. Some existing BBS codes provide the time stamp in other than GMT, and may include a time zone indicator after the time stamp. This should be considered in the design of header parsers.

Each system that handles the message places it's routing header at the top of the message headers before passing the message to the next BBS. The headers must begin in column 1. A blank line separates the routing headers from the body of the message.

The last (oldest) routing header shows the BBS where the message originated. This header is the only source for this information. The information about the originating BBS is used to create a return address for reply messages.

Here are two examples of the same header, in the two different formats:

```
R:930101/0000 1530@KA6FUB.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA
R:930101/0000 @:KA6FUB.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA #:1530
```

These examples show the different syntax for the message number and originating BBS address. All fields not shown in the examples are optional at the discretion of the sysop.

### Section 3 - Reverse forwarding

Once all messages have either been successfully forwarded from the MASTER to the SLAVE, or been rejected by the SLAVE, the MASTER may accept messages from the SLAVE. i.e. the MASTER and SLAVE exchange roles. This is called "reverse forwarding".

ACCEPT EXCHANGE:

```
MASTER SLAVE

REV_FWD "F>"
RESPONSE "OK"
COMMENT
REV_FWD "F>"
SEND_CMD
MESSAGE
```

REJECT EXCHANGE:

```
MASTER SLAVE

REV_FWD "F>"
RESPONSE "NO"
REV_FWD "F>"
SEND_CMD
```

The MASTER indicates that it is ready to accept a message by answering the SLAVE's PROMPT, ">", with a REV\_FWD command, "F>". At that point the SLAVE issues a SEND\_CMD and the process continues as described in section 2 but with the rolls of MASTER and SLAVE reversed. The only difference is that the MASTER will always respond with REV\_FWD in place of PROMPT to indicate successful transfer.

```
REV_FWD = "F>" EOL
```

The reverse forwarding phase is optional and is under the control of the MASTER. It can be terminated by any of the following:

SLAVE disconnects

SLAVE sends anything other than a legal SEND\_CMD

MASTER disconnects

MASTER sends anything other than "F>".

#### Section 4 - Forwarding to old BBSs

If the SLAVE does not return a SID then it is assumed that it will not support BIDs nor OK/NO message rejection.

The SLAVE indicates it is prepared to accept a command by issuing a PROMPT. This PROMPT is also an acknowledgement that the last message has been received.

The MASTER initiates the message exchange by issuing a SEND\_CMD with no HLOC or BID. The SLAVE has no way to reject the message so the MASTER proceeds to send the message subject and body without expecting acknowledgement from the SLAVE.

Since the SLAVE assumes a user is entering the message, it will display prompts to lead the user through the message sending process, asking for a subject, prompting for the message body, etc. The MASTER should consider this text to be part of the PROMPT and ignore it.

As in Section 2, the MASTER waits until PROMPT is received. This is the acknowledgement that the message has been recieved and the next message can be sent.

When the MASTER has no additional messages to send it disconnects from the SLAVE. Reverse forwarding is not supported in this situation.

#### Section 5 - Error Conditions

When an error of any nature is detected by either the MASTER or the SLAVE, that station will disconnect at once, without issuing a PROMPT.

#### Section 6 - BNF Summary

Meta-syntactic information.

[x]           = Optional Zero or one x.  
(x y)        = Grouping. Treat multiple tokens as single token.  
<>           = Set.

Characters of interest.

TAB           = <0x09>  
LF            = <0x0a>  
CR            = <0x0d>  
CNTRL\_Z       = <0x1a>  
SP            = <0x20>

Character sets of interest.

ALPHA         = <'A' - 'Z', 'a' - 'z'>  
DIGIT         = <'0' - '9'>  
ALNUM         = ALPHA | DIGIT  
ASCII         = <0x20 - 0x7f>  
SPACE         = SP | TAB  
8BIT          = <0x01 - 0xff, except CR, LF, CTRL\_Z>

Character sequences of interest.

EOL           = CR | CR LF  
  
NUMBER         = DIGIT | NUMBER DIGIT  
WHITE         = SPACE | WHITE SPACE  
  
ASCII\_STR      = ASCII | ASCII\_STR ASCII  
ALNUM\_STR     = ALNUM | ALNUM\_STR ALNUM  
8BIT\_STR      = 8BIT | 8BIT\_STR 8BIT

System identifier syntax.

AUTHOR\_ID     = <ASCII\_STR, except '[', ']', '-'>  
AUTHOR\_DATA   = <ASCII\_STR, except '[', ']'>  
FEATURE       = ALPHA [DIGIT]  
FEATURE\_LIST  = FEATURE | FEATURE\_LIST FEATURE  
SID           = "[" AUTHOR\_ID ["-" AUTHOR\_DATA] ["-" FEATURE\_LIST "]" EOL

System Prompt syntax.

```
COMMENT = <ASCII_STR, except '>'>
PROMPT = [COMMENT] ">" EOL
```

Send Command syntax.

```
TYPE = 'B' | 'P' | 'T'
CALLSIGN = <ASCII_STR, except '@', '.', ' ', max length 6>
LOC = <ASCII_STR, except '@', '.', ' ', max length 6>
HLOC = <LOC | HLOC "." LOC, max length 31>
BBS = CALLSIGN ["." HLOC]
TO = CALLSIGN [("@" | WHITE "@" WHITE) BBS]
FROM = CALLSIGN
BID = <ASCII_STR, except ' ', max length 12>
SEND = "S" TYPE WHITE TO [WHITE "<" WHITE FROM] [WHITE "$" [BID]]
```

Message syntax.

```
SUBJECT = <ASCII_STR, max length 79> EOL

YEAR = DIGIT DIGIT
MONTH = DIGIT DIGIT
DAY = DIGIT DIGIT
HOUR = DIGIT DIGIT
MINUTE = DIGIT DIGIT
STAMP = "R:" YEAR MONTH DAY "/" HOUR MINUTE
MSG_NUM = <NUMBER, range 1 - 65535>
HEADER1 = STAMP WHITE MSG_NUM "@" BBS EOL
HEADER2 = STAMP WHITE "@:" BBS WHITE [ASCII_STR] "#:" MSG_NUM [ASCII_STR]
HEADER = HEADER1 | HEADER2
HEADERS = HEADER | HEADERS HEADER

BODY = 8BIT_STR | BODY EOL 8BIT_STR
EOMA = CTRL_Z EOL
EOMB = EOL "/EX" EOL
MESSAGE = SUBJECT [HEADERS] EOL [BODY] (EOMA | EOMB)
```

Standard message identification syntax.

```
MSG_ID = MSG_NUM "_" CALLSIGN
```

## Section 7 - Feature Letter Use

Feature \$:

Supports BIDs.  
This feature must be supported.

Feature A:

F6FBB - Acknowledge for personal messages.

Feature B:

F6FBB - Binary messages supported.

Feature C:

Obsolete: Supports automatic distribution of current date / time.  
(W0RLI, K0ZXF)

Feature F:

F6FBB - Batch forwarding protocol.

Feature H:

Supports Hierarchical Location designators.  
This feature must be supported.

Feature I:

Some transport mechanisms do not identify the calling station in the protocol as AX25 does. To handle this situation, a "null command" is defined as a line beginning with ';'. This allows the sending station to send callsigns to satisfy the regulations for station identification.

EXAMPLE

; W5SMM de W0RLI

The receiving station must ignore such lines.

#### Feature L:

Glnna - Compression.

#### Feature M:

For AA4RE systems:

Basic level ("M0")

MID = message identifier

Every message has a MID.

The MID looks like a "generated" BID (example 12345\_AA4RE).

The "M" letter in the SID indicates that a MID is to be transmitted with messages that have no BID.

Processing:

If a send command is received by a BBS with a MID, the program should determine if it is a duplicate. If it is, the program should respond with the usual "NO" as if it was matching a BID.

#### Feature R:

AA4RE - Extended reject responses.

OK

Yes, send to me. Note that no number is required. This may help eliminate phantom message numbers.

NO

This is a real dupe

REJECT

I can't handle this

LATER

Send to me later ...

The LATER is useful when you are already receiving a bulletin on one connect and someone else tries to send you the same bulletin.

REJECTed messages should be called to the attention of the SYSOP to see why the reject occurs.

The difference between NO and REJECT is whether or not SYSOP attention is needed.

Abbreviations are alloed: 1 Letter only ... O N L R

There must be a blank after the word or letter. This one is fine:

N Already have it.

This one is not correct:

REJECT, Something wrong

The comma is not allowed.

#### Feature S:

AA4RE - Extended "S" commands.

#### Feature X:

W0RLI - Supports ihave/iwant compressed batch forwarding.

A standard for Data compression during the forwarding of messages in the Amateur Radio BBS Network.

- o ihave/iwant variable batch size protocol
- o Feature letter X, commands SS, SX, SY.
- o lzh compression

-----  
Command Definitions and BNF description.  
-----

N = INTEGER, size 32 bits.  
protocol = TBD



```

batch_size = N
file_size = N
msg_count = <0 - 25>
cksum = <file checksum>

id = BID | MID CR
ids = id | ids id

byte = <0x00 - 0xff>
bytes = byte | bytes byte

ihave = "SX " msg_count [" " protocol] [" " batch_size] CR [ids]
iwant = "SY " msg_count CR [ids]
isend = "SS " file_size [" " cksum] CR bytes

```

For ihave:  
 Protocol and batch\_size not used in initial implementation.  
 Default protocol is: lzh compressed export/import file.

For iwant:  
 SY means want only these.

Note that the SS command must terminate with CR, without LF.

The optional checksum is computed by summing all the bytes  
 in the file as unsigned integers. Example code:

```

{
 int byte;
 unsigned int sum;

 sum = 0;
 for (all bytes in file) sum += byte;
}

```

RFC-822 header fields used are:

```

To:
From:
Subject:
Message-ID:
X-msgtype:
X-BID:

```

-----  
 The basic interchange (example):  
 -----

bn are BIDs (or MIDs if the message has no BID).  
 m: is master, s: is slave.

```

m: SX 5
m: b1
m: b2
m: b3
m: b4
m: b5

```

```

s: SY 3
s: b1
s: b3
s: b5

```

```

m: SS 26545
m: <sends 26545 byte file>

```

In the case of any error, the station noticing the error must disconnect.

-----  
 With more detail of one implementation (MB/SERVER processing)  
 -----

Maximum batch size defined globally (default), and per link.  
 Ability to turn compression on/off (add/drop feature X in SID).

>From sending side:

MB:

Scan messages to find a batch just larger than max batch size.  
Keep record numbers and cc: id in list.  
Send ihave.  
Receive iwant.  
Mark all messages in ihave and not in iwant as forwarded (dup bid).  
Pass iwant list to SERVER in file.  
Wait for server acknowledge.

SERVER:

Create export file.  
Compress export file.  
Signal MB that compressed file ready to send.

MB:

Send isend, send the file.  
Receive prompt.  
Mark all messages in iwant as forwarded.

>From receiving side:

MB:

Receive ihave.  
Check bids in ihave.  
For all non-dup bids, make iwant list.  
Send iwant.  
Receive compressed file.  
Signal SERVER import file available.  
Send prompt.

SERVER:

Decompress file, import messages.

Section 8 - Import / Export files.

Import/Export files may contain any number of messages.  
Each message is terminated by EOMB

RFC-822 header use in import/export files.

The standard RFC-822 keywords which must be supported are:

To:  
From:  
Subject:  
Message-ID:  
cc:

Extension keywords which must be supported are:

X-msgtype: (WØRLI)  
X-BBS-Msg-Type: (JNOS)  
  
X-BID: (WØRLI)  
  
X-BBS-Hold: (JNOS)  
X-Forwarded-To: (JNOS)

END OF SPEC

--PART-BOUNDARY=.19508040931.ZM5168.hanko--

---

#### 44. [BBSSIG:1517] Re: Help Wanted (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WAØRJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 4 Aug 1995 19:11:32 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508050011.TAA21310@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: Help Wanted

On Aug 3, 8:03pm, Brian A. Lantz wrote:

> plain text is ALWAYS best.....

Omigodwhatwillhappennext!

A point upon which Brian and I are in strong agreement ...

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

#### 45. [BBSSIG:1518] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 4 Aug 1995 19:11:59 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508050012.TAA21319@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: Multicast

On Aug 3, 10:01pm, Charles Brabham wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1509] Re: Multicast  
> > On Aug 3, 5:21pm, Karl F. Larsen wrote:  
> >> Subject: [BBSSIG:1499] Re: Multicast  
> >> I feel that no-one is reading what I write! For heaven sakes lets  
> >> talk about things THAT EXIST TODAY!! and then depart from there as  
> >> intellegent discussion takes us.  
> >>  
> >> Case in point: FBB today can be setup to transmitt the Title of  
> >> every message as it enters the pbbs. This title is read by all the hams  
> >> in the area with a special Client software.  
> >>  
> >> Good example. Is there a document which describes the protocol used,  
> >> so that others could code to it?  
> >>  
> There is some info in FBB's docs about the broadcast of the message titles  
> and so on, but not as much as I'd like to see. On the other hand, it's a  
> pretty straightforward process, and probably isn't very complicated.

Could someone publish the info here?  
With details: is it one per frame, multiple per frame, how is the  
frame (or frames) identified? When are they sent? How are they  
sent so the users can see them (our users tend to be "anywhere" on  
the network, and may well not be in RF range of any bbs, so the  
frames would have to be digipeated to be of any use).

Hmmm ... this sounds like the same set of questions we have been asking  
about APRS - it looks like an interesting tool, but we have not been  
able to use it in our network because of the one-to-many digipeat  
required to make it useful.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

#### 46. [BBSSIG:1519] Re: packet routing header utility program (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 10:06:59 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508051506.KAA29475@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: packet routing header utility program

```

>A program i've written in C and compiled, a utility i call
>ROUTES, may be of interest to packet bbs sysops and others so
>i am posting this announcement on BBSSIG and TAPR-BB lists.
>
>ROUTES.EXE: A self-extracting archive. For DOS; there is one
>version for a 50-line screen and one for the 25-line screen.
>The utility creates a searchable listing, using packet
>bulletins you have downloaded off your local ham radio BBS
>using the 'rh' command (rather than 'r') to get the long-header
>info. (Sorry, i don't know what the equivalent FBB command is
>for this. It might be 'v'.) The listing will tell you who
>forwards to whom, who receives from whom. Will also tell you
>how many days a message stayed on a BBS en route. You can then
>search the listing with the search program provided, and it
>will produce a file based on a search callsign you provide.

```

Remember, this will only work on P/T mail, since many people are using header strippers to cut volume by 60% or so.

```

>Also have some freeware, with C code and author identification
>material, for several TSR utilities, one of which lets you
>copy PARTS of your screen (the parts you select) to a disk
>file, and appends to that disk file every time you invoke
>the TSR.

```

This sounds similar to, or the same as SNIPPER, a very handy program I load (TSR) during any dos configured boot, including my FBB boards.

```

..
..
Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

```

## 47. [BBSSIG:1525] Re: client/server (fwd)

```

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 10:09:14 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199508051509.KAA29496@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)
Subject: Re: client/server

```

According to Andrew..

```

>
>
>>Current protocol as in the preliminary specs? If so, would not our c/s
>>needs be satisfied with lan-link and the like, perhaps extended with
>>compression?
>
>If we're discussing meeting currently perceived "needs", then I'd say almost
>but not quite. However, if we're looking towards the future I'd say no.
>
How so? What future needs are you referring to?

```

```

>As I mentioned earlier, I think we need to add a standardized "long" list
>format which includes message IDs (MIDs) and a means to request messages
>based upon MIDs.
>

```

We could make message listings longer, thereby using up extra time and spectrum, but if we do we should be able to point to a GREAT benefit in order to make the change appear worthwhile. Otherwise, you're just wasting time and spectrum to no particular purpose.

```

>And no, I do not think use of message numbers local to a particular BBS is
>sufficient.
>

```

```

>Say an individual decides he wants a particular message, but after it's been
>killed on the BBS his system normally interacts with. If the protocol uses
>the message number on that particular BBS then he's out of luck. But, if
>the MID is used he'll be able to "point" his client software at an alternate
>BBS and possibly retrieve the message.
>

```

```

>If we add another new element -- a list of killed messages, by MID, from the
>server to the client -- the client software can keep it's list of available
>messages in sync with the server.
>

```

I'm not sure how it's done at your location, but here bulletins have a one

or two week "lifetime" on the BBS's.. Despite the fact that these bulls are available all this time, I have NEVER had a user show an interest in an old, killed bulletin. In fact, it's very SELDOM that anyone bothers to look at bulls which are over a few days old.

Making message listings longer would slow things down EVERY DAY, whenever bulletins are listed.. The alleged "benifit" would show itself very SELDOM, if ever.

It sure does seem like a lot of trouble to go through, for a feature which users here have never shown any likelihood to utilize.

>Even more powerful is another application of this element -- the ability to  
>distribute complete message lists from Hub BBSs to outlying BBSs, but only  
>the complete text of those messages the outlying BBS sysop configures his  
>system to request. Users of outlying systems could list messages available  
>"by request" as well as those available (full text) on the local system.  
>

I don't consider making a user wait an hour or more to see the bulletins they want as a 'powerful feature". I can assure you that the users won't see it as "powerful" either. They'd shortly be screaming for the OLD system. Nobody likes to be forced to wait.

I don't presume to decide for my BBS's users which bulls should be immediately available.

>Attempts to read (manually, by a "keyboard" user) or request (in the case of  
>a c/s client) a message for which text is not available locally could  
>generate a request to the system containing the text for the text, and a  
>reply to the requestor that the message is being obtained. When the text  
>arrives at the BBS it is both stored (as if it had arrived normally, until  
>the message is killed) and sent to the requestor.  
>

Again, this seems like a lot of trouble to go through, in order to provide slower, inferior service.

>Something else we should look at, as others have already written, is  
>Usenet-style newsgroups. This could be as simple as adding RFC-822 style  
>Newsgroup headers to bulletins which could be used by BBS software in  
>whatever way the author chooses. Or, we could do that and also add the  
>newsgroup to the long list format I mentioned above. Doing so would provide  
>an additional criterion BBSs and Client software users could use for  
>automated bulletin selection/rejection.

Here we go again, taking up more time/spectrum and having no significant benefit to show for it.

We should be looking for ways to do MORE with LESS, not the other way around.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Getting older can be pretty tough, but it's still much better than the alternative.

---

## 48. [BBSSIG:1526] BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 10:09:47 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508051509.KAA29512@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>  
Subject: BBS Wishes -- client/server protocol

Here's my two cents:

Plain Text -- Lets not overdo it. I don't mind somewhat abbreviated ASCII text so we can read it and debug it but lets not get wordy.  
Example: Response can be one character instead of OK or NO.

Compression -- Continuous stream compression. Not this bundle messages together and compress stuff. Too much waste of bandwidth.  
V42.bis?

Full duplex -- No waiting for an ACK whenever possible. Message transfer in both directions simultaneously.

Roy

---

## 49. [BBSSIG:1527] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 10:10:21 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508051510.KAA29522@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: Multicast

> It seems to me we have all the parts to a Client-Server system  
> already in the world. Why begin a New Design before we can show what  
> exists is not adequate? Let's start a Project to GUI the TPK software.  
> This is a very well designed project since we know the desired outcome:ie  
> that it work just like it does in DOS, but be a Windows program with all  
> the normal Windows features.  
>  
>-karl

While at it, let's have it improved by letting it get more than one message  
at a time. Why can't it get blocks of messages, like FBB forwards to other  
BBSes?

..  
..  
Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 50. [BBSSIG:1528] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 10:10:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508051510.KAA29531@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Multicast

On Fri, 4 Aug 1995, Bill Barnes, N3JIX wrote:

> On Thu, 3 Aug 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:  
>  
> > Good example. Is there a document which describes the protocol used,  
> > so that others could code to it?  
>  
> I'm not an FBB person, but I think I remember reading in FBB docs an  
> appendix on the protocols used for compressed forwarding, FBB style.  
>  
> Can one of our FBB "experts" cut that sections out of the docs and send  
> to Hank to look at?

I am no expert but I do have the FBB docs in electronic and  
printed form. Will look and put the right stuff here. It must be enough  
for a programmer since several guys have been able to copy it.

But it's Greek to this "expert".

-karl k5di

---

## 51. [BBSSIG:1529] FBB protocol, forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 10:17:44 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508051517.KAA29593@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: FBB protocol, forwarding

This is the section of the manual for FBB software that talks  
about how the FBB forward method differs from the MBL standard. Also  
included is the method of making a compressed message file.

It appears that John-paul uses YappC protocol for forwarding.  
That is disussed in my next message on Unproto Message Headers.

FBB software includes two forward protocoles. The first one is standard with MBL/RLI protocole. The second one was developped to allow efficiency, particularly on long links where propagation time of data are long. The exchange of commands is reduced to a minimum, and not acknowledged to get time. The data transfer direction is changed every block of data, a block of data holding up to five messages. This uses the "pipeline" effect of long links (Nodes and digipeaters), and gain some time over short links (HF...).

FBB protocole is very simple in its principle. It is based on MID/BID usage. The identification is made by the F letter in the SID (system type identifier contained in square brackets). All command lines must start in first collumn with the 'F' character. All command lines are ended by a return (CR) character.

Suppose I call another BBS to forward some mail. When I connect another BBS using FBB protocole, I will receive the SID followed by a text and the prompt (">"). If the SID contains the F flag, I will send immediately my SID and the first proposal.

Proposals looks like :

```
FB P F6FBB FC1GHV FC1MVP 24657_F6FBB 1345
F> HH
```

FB : Identifies the type of the command (proposal)  
P : Type of message (P = Private, B = Bulletin).  
F6FBB : Sender (from field).  
FC1GHV : BBS of recipient (@field).  
FC1MVP : Recipient (to field).  
24657\_F6FBB : BID ou MID.  
1345 : Size of message in bytes.  
F> : End of proposal.  
HH is optional. It is the checksum of the whole proposal in hexadecimal.

ALL the fields are necessary. This kind of command must hold seven fields. If a field is missing upon receiving, an error message will be send immediately followed by a disconnection.

A proposal can handle up to five FB command lines. If the total size of messages seems to be too important, the proposal can handle less lines. In FBB software, a parameter is defined in INIT.SRV file to tell the maximum size of the message block. It is set by default to 10KB.

Exemple of proposal :

```
FB P F6FBB FC1GHV.FFPC.FRA.EU FC1MVP 24657_F6FBB 1345
FB P FC1CDC F6ABJ F6AXV 24643_F6FBB 5346
FB B F6FBB FRA FBB 22_456_F6FBB 8548
F> HH
```

This proposal is limited to three FB lines, as the amount of messages overran the 10KB limit.

When receiving the proposal, the other BBS will reject, accept or defer the message. This command is made by a FS line :

```
FS -+=
```

This means :

- I don't want the first message (-).
- I need the second message (+).
- I defer the third message, as I'm still receiving it.

It should interesting to defer a message if you are still receiving it on a other channel, or if you think that the size is to big, or for another reason. The message should be proposed again at the next connection.

FS line MUST have as many +,-,= signs as lines in the proposal.





FS + (Accepts the message)

Title message  
Text message  
.....  
^Z

FF (still no message)

FQ (No more message)

Disconnection of the link.

In this example, FBB protocole is used as the two BBS were identified by the F flag in the SID. If F6FBB had sent the SID [FBB-5.11-MH\$] when answering FC1GHV, the protocole should be the standard MBL/RLI.

All callsigns are only examples !

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APPENDIX -7- Extension to the protocole. Compressed forward FBB.  
-----

The protocole utilized for the transfer of ascii files compressed is an extension to the existing protocole. The compressed forward is validated by the presence of the letter B in the SID [FBB-5.12-BFHM\$]. The transfer of compressed files can only take place under FBB protocole. The presence of the letter B in the SID without the F letter will remain without effect.

The only difference as regard to the standard protocol is the submit line. It can specify the type of data contained in the compressed message. FA means that the transfer will be an ascii compressed message. FB means that the message will be a binary compressed file (this last possibility is not yet implemented in the version 5.12).

The submission of an ascii message will be in the form :  
FA P FC1CDC F6ABJ F6AXV 24754\_F6FBB 345

The submission of a binary file will be in the form :  
FB P FC1CDC F6ABJ F6AXV 24754\_F6FBB 345

The transfered data are of a specific format. The transfer will be done in binary mode. This last one is derived of the YAPP protocol which is very reliable. All transfer is made of a header, a block of data, an end of message and a checksum. Each transfer is equivalent to the transfer of one message of the standard protocol and shall not be followed by a control Z, the end of file specifier is defined in another way.

Format of header for an ascii compressed message (submission FA) :

<SOH> 1 byte = 01 hex  
Length of the header 1 byte = Length from the title,  
including the two <NUL> characters.  
Title of the message 1 to 80 bytes  
<NUL> 1 byte = 00 hex  
Offset 1 to 6 bytes  
<NUL> 1 byte = 00 hex

Format of header for a binary compressed file (submission FB) :

<SOH> 1 byte = 01 hex  
Length of the header 1 byte = Length from the filename,  
including the two <NUL> characters.  
Name of the file 1 to 80 bytes  
<NUL> 1 byte = 00 hex  
Offset 1 to 6 bytes  
<NUL> 1 byte = 00 hex

As to follow the french regulation, the title of the message or the file name are transmitted in ascii, not compressed.

The offset is also transmitted in ascii and specifies the offset at which the data should be inserted in the file (in case of a fragmented file). In the version 5.12, this parameter is not utilized and is always equal to zero.

A data block contains from one to 256 bytes. It begins by two bytes which specify the format.

Data block format :

<STX> 1 byte = 02 hex  
Number of data 1 byte = 00 to ff hex. (00 if length = 256 bytes).

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Data bytes 1 to 256 bytes

The last data block is followed by the end of file specifier and the checksum.

End of file specifier format :

<EOT> 1 byte = 04 hex  
Checksum 1 byte = 00 a ff hex

The checksum is equal to the sum of all the data bytes of the transmitted file, modulo 256 (8 bits) and then two's complemented.

The checking of the checksum is very simple :

The sum of the datas from the file and the checksum received modulo 256 (anded with FF) shall be equal to zero.

In case of a checksum error, the message or the file is not taken to account and the system issues a disconnect request after having sent the comment :

\*\*\* Checksum error

-----  
End of FBB forwarding and compressed forwards.

73, de karl k5di

---

## 52. [BBSSIG:1530] FBB protocol Unproto Lists (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 10:18:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508051518.KAA29610@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: FBB protocol Unproto Lists

When asked to do so the FBB server will transmitt a message header EACH time the server receives a message from a forward or user. The message is sent out Unproto (not connected to anyone) and hams with the TPK software running get the headers.

Here is the protocol for the Unproto and YappC exchanges:

FBB software allows sending unproto lists of message. This is validated separately on each port (letter L in PORT.SYS). Unproto address is FBB with the following header :

fm F6FBB-1 to FBB ctl UI

An unproto list line is sent on every validated port each time a message is recorded. The line is in the form :

12345 B 2053 TEST@ALL F6FBB 920325 This is the subject

If a message number is missing or does not exist the line will be :

12346 #

This allows a system listening to the UI packets on a frequency to create a list identical to the one of the BBS, and then the user will not have to connect the BBS to know the list of messages and bulletins.

A control can be done on the number of the messages to check if a line is missing.

If the remote system receives a new line, and a line is missing, it only has to send an unproto frame addressed to the BBS callsign like this :

fm FC1EBN-3 to F6FBB-1 ctl UI  
? 00002EE00E

This will be taken in account only if the user has the U flag validated (EU command).

If the user has not his flag validated in the BBS, he will receive a line like :

fm F6FBB-1 to FBB ctl UI  
12200 / callsign

In this case, the the remote software MUST stop asking unprotoes.

The first 8 digits are the hexadecimal number of the requested start of the list (here 00002EE0 -> 12000) and the last two digits are the sum of the four bytes added with FF (0E).

The BBS will then starts sending lines from the requested number up to the last message number.

If the number requested seems to be too far from the current line, the BBS can reajust the request of "callsign" while sending :

fm F6FBB-1 to FBB ctl UI  
12200 ! CALLSIGN  
12201 B 2040 TEST@FRA F6FBB 920325 This is a bulletin  
12202 #  
12203 P 206 F6ABJ@F6ABJ F6FBB 920325 Hello Remy.  
etc...

and then starts sending lines from 12201. The remote system must change its base number to 12201.

If the number requested is greater than the last message received in the BBS, the BBS will send a line like :

12300 !!

This indicates that the list in the remote system is up to date. The last received message in the BBS is 12300.

The remote system can also connect the BBS and ask for messages in binary compressed mode using the following sequence :

| BBS                                                                               | Remote system      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| -----                                                                             |                    |
| Connection.                                                                       | Connection request |
| [FBB-5.14-ABFHM\$]<br>Welcome in Toulouse, Gerard.<br>F6FBB BBS>                  |                    |
| 1>                                                                                | [TPK-1.80-\$]      |
|                                                                                   | F< #Msg            |
| Binary compressed message #Msg<br>is sent using format described<br>in appendix 7 |                    |
| 1>                                                                                |                    |
|                                                                                   | Disconnect.        |

From TPK version 1.80 (packet communication program developped by FC1EBN), this protocole is implemented.

FBB 5.15 Feb 06 1993 Page - 166  
APPENDIX -16- EXTENSIONS TO THE YAPP PROTOCOLE.

-----  
These extensions are used in TPK 1.65a (and up) and FBB 5.14 and up.

HEADER extension.

The header now carries the DATE and TIME of the file being transmitted.  
[SOH] [Len] [Filename] [NUL] [File Size] [NUL] [Date] [Time] [NUL]

The Date and Time are the values reported by DOS, coded in 4 hexadecimal digits and are sent in ASCII (8 characters).

The receiver has the choice of using either extended Yapp with checksum or normal Yapp.

The normal Yapp reply is RF, as before and the receiver can keep the date and time information .

The extended Yapp reply is : RT Receive\_TPK and is coded : [ACK] [ACK]

If the receiver reply is RT the protocol used will be what I have called YappC for Yapp with checksum. When the sender gets this packet he MUST use YappC.

Data Packets extension.

If the receiver's reply is RT the protocol used will be YappC. The checksum allows detection of packets corrupted along the link, particularly on the RS232 lines where there is no error control or correction (or it's very poor!)

Data packets : [STX] [Len] [Datas] [Checksum]

Checksum is the sum of all datas bytes added with FF in 8 bits like Xmodem.

If the checksum is bad then the receiver must send a Cancel and enters CW state.

Crash Recovery.

A new field has been added to the resume reply to tell the sender if the receiver can use YappC or not. Resume is sent instead of RF (or RT).

Resume reply for Yapp: (as used before by TPK and FBB)

```
[NAK] [Len] [R] [NUL] [Received Length] [NUL]
 I I I
 I I +-- in ASCII as in the header
 I +-- as Resume !
 I
 +----- len of the following bytes
```

Resume reply for YappC:

```
[NAK] [Len] [R] [NUL] [Received Length] [NUL] [C] [NUL]
 I
 Tells sender I can use YappC -----+
```

When the sender gets this packet then he must also use YappC.

-----

I hope this and the forwarding message helps the guys actively wishing to write code, to write code...

73, de karl k5di

---

## 53. [BBSSIG:1538] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 20:33:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508060133.UAA02514@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: fljkj@planete.net (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Subject: Re: Multicast

>>Good example. Is there a document which describes the protocol used,  
>>so that others could code to it?

>TPK's docs don't include the info needed, as far as I can tell. Is the  
>author of TPK hanging out here on the SIG? If not, does somebody here  
>communicate with him?

I may be able to help you.

F6FBB is two bbs hops far from me, and the author of TPK (F1EBN) can certainly be reached easily with a packet message.

But -I wonder if they have \_written\_ something describing protocols  
-I'm affraid both are very busy, and may take a long time to answer

Anyway, come on with precise questions, i'll try to get an answer.

>From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ -- PGP Email welcome  
> F1JKJ@planete.net < Public Key on mail servers  
Fidonet 2:323/27.1  
Compuserve ID 100407,436

## 54. [BBSSIG:1540] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 6 Aug 1995 11:40:26 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508061640.LAA06951@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Multicast

On Sat, 5 Aug 1995 mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us wrote:

```
> > It seems to me we have all the parts to a Client-Server system
> > already in the world. Why begin a New Design before we can show what
> > exists is not adequate? Let's start a Project to GUI the TPK software.
> > This is a very well designed project since we know the desired outcome:ie
> > that it work just like it does in DOS, but be a Windows program with all
> > the normal Windows features.
> >
> > -karl
>
>
> While at it, let's have it improved by letting it get more than one message
> at a time. Why can't it get blocks of messages, like FBB forwards to other
> BBSes?
```

Good thought but the server is not now configured to do that. If you look at the bbs forwarding scheme it doesn't support request for files. The TPK requests are 1 at a time and the sending is too.

AA4RE wants the block approach with standard V42bis compression, but plain test first. Sounds like a good idea.

-karl

```
> .
> .
> Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N
> mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us
> AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM
>
>
>
```

---

## 55. [BBSSIG:1541] Re: Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 6 Aug 1995 11:44:10 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508061644.LAA06981@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Multicast

On Sat, 5 Aug 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

```
> > Can one of our FBB "experts" cut that sections out of the docs and send
> > to Hank to look at?
> I am no expert but I do have the FBB docs in electronic and
> printed form. Will look and put the right stuff here. It must be enough
> for a programmer since several guys have been able to copy it.
```

Yes, I was looking at it when I was considering FBB... It doesn't seem too bad...

> But it's Greek to this "expert".

Well, this is how it works: Programers usually aren't the best writers either. And yes, it does look like Greek...

```
73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg Unviersity *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ *****
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

```

---

## 56. compression techniques

```
From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sun, 6 Aug 1995 11:55:44 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199508061655.LAA07026@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

Replying to Karl's comment -

I believe that Roy AA4RE suggested a compression technique that is significantly different than FBB.

As I understand it, FBB determines which msgs to send, then compresses this fixed block of text and sends it. So a 10K block is reduced to 7K (or whatever size).

Continuous compression looks at a bit stream and compresses it, independant of the size of the input block. The "window" size is rather small.

Now, as I reread this, it doesn't make as much sense as I wanted it to. Can Roy or someone give us a breif summary of the two techniques?

Barry

---

## 57. [BBSSIG:1545] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

```
From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sun, 6 Aug 1995 20:02:15 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199508070102.UAA09827@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

```
Sender: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>
Subject: Re: compression techniques
```

On Sun, 6 Aug 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Replying to Karl's comment -

>

> As I understand it, FBB determines which msgs to send, then compresses  
> this fixed block of text and sends it. So a 10K block is reduced  
> to 7K (or whatever size).

Caveat: I was on holiday and missed the beginning of this thread so I may be off track here.

Unless FBB has changed significantly, it compresses each message separately. What it does is find 5 to send, unless the total ASCII length exceeds 10k in which case it'll stop looking for more messages once the 10k limit is exceeded. It then compresses each message file into another disk file (i.e. each message produces a separate compressed file - it does not compress all 5 messages into one). Then it sends each compressed file using the YAPP protocol. If you have watched an FBB on a slow machine doing forwarding, you'll notice the delay between it sending the proposals and the actual message especially if a message is more than about 2k long because it takes a while to compress the message from the ASCII file into another file.

When I implemented compression into the Amiga version of C-BBS I made it do the compression on-the-fly and there's no delay between proposal and message.

> Continuous compression looks at a bit stream and compresses  
> it, independant of the size of the input block. The "window" size  
> is rather small.

Each message in FBB is compressed as a bit stream by the LZH algorithm.

It would be slightly more efficient if FBB were to collect up to 10k of messages together, compress them, and send them as one whacking big transmission.

## 58. [BBSSIG:1546] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 6 Aug 1995 20:02:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508070102.UAA09836@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

On Sun, 6 Aug 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Replying to Karl's comment -  
>  
> I believe that Roy AA4RE suggested a compression technique that is  
> significantly different than FBB.  
>  
> As I understand it, FBB determines which msgs to send, then compresses  
> this fixed block of text and sends it. So a 10K block is reduced  
> to 7K (or whatever size).

Your right Barry but you lumped several selectable functions  
together in FBB. Let me try and sort them out:

1. FBB only uses compression when in the F6FBB mode. If using the  
MBL/RLI forwarding protocol, it NEVER uses compression.

2. As a consequence of 1. above the forwarding can be compressed  
or NOT, depending on a software switch. The "fixed block" is a software  
switch telling the server what the maximum byte size will be.

3. If 1. and 2. call for compressed forwarding then EVERY block  
of whatever size is compressed at the time it is forwarded. The messages  
are not stored as compressed. The compression is "real time" just before  
the forward.

>  
> Continuous compression looks at a bit stream and compresses  
> it, independant of the size of the input block. The "window" size  
> is rather small.

Accoding to my booklet that came with my US Robotics 14,400 modem  
V42bis is a Hardware compression system that compresses EVERYTHING going  
out as it goes out. It has a longterm speed of compression that exceeds  
14,400 bits/second. But it can't do it on a bit-by-bit basis so it has a  
window of some bit-length that it fills with uncompressed data,  
compresses it and outputs this to the modem.

I haven't been able to find out which is the better compression  
method. My guess is that FBB can use pkzip version 1.10G which is slow  
compared to 14,000 bits/sec but ok in forwarding at the usuall speeds and  
compresses things better than anything else I have seen.

>  
> Now, as I reread this, it doesn't make as much sense as I wanted it to.  
> Can Roy or someone give us a breif summary of the two techniques?  
>  
> Barry  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>

73 de someone else, k5di karl

---

## 59. [BBSSIG:1549] Re: compression techniques (fwd)



From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 6 Aug 1995 22:03:07 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508070303.WAA10652@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

>On Sun, 6 Aug 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
>> Replying to Karl's comment -  
>Unless FBB has changed significantly, it compresses each message  
>separately. What it does is find 5 to send, unless the total ASCII length  
>exceeds 10k in which case it'll stop looking for more messages once the  
>10k limit is exceeded. It then compresses each message file into another  
>disk file (i.e. each message produces a separate compressed file - it does  
>not compress all 5 messages into one). Then it sends each compressed file  
>using the YAPP protocol. If you have watched an FBB on a slow machine  
>doing forwarding, you'll notice the delay between it sending the proposals  
>and the actual message especially if a message is more than about 2k long  
>because it takes a while to compress the message from the ASCII file into  
>another file.

Not quite. It has to have a pause after the proposal anyway. The receiving station tells it which of the proposed messages it wants, which ones it rejects, and which ones it has part of already and how much. After the receiving station replies, the whole thing IS sent as one data stream. Each message is not sent separately. They all combine into one. The receiving station recovers each one at the marker that indicates the end of each message.

>When I implemented compression into the Amiga version of C-BBS I made it  
>do the compression on-the-fly and there's no delay between proposal and  
>message.

Then how does the receiving station tell the sending board what it wants and doesn't want?

>It would be slightly more efficient if FBB were to collect up to 10k of  
>messages together, compress them, and send them as one whacking big  
>transmission.

This IS how FBB works already. By the way, the size of the block is defaulted at 10k but settable to something larger or smaller. This just determines how much it will try to send at one proposal. I don't remember for sure, but I 'think' there is a maximum of 5 messages proposed, no matter how large the block is set. Obviously, if the block is set to 5k and a message is 5k, it will only propose one in that proposal.

..  
..

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 60. [BBSSIG:1550] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 6 Aug 1995 22:03:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508070303.WAA10663@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

>On Sun, 6 Aug 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
>  
>> Replying to Karl's comment -  
>>  
>> I believe that Roy AA4RE suggested a compression technique that is  
>> significantly different than FBB.  
>>  
>> As I understand it, FBB determines which msgs to send, then compresses  
>> this fixed block of text and sends it. So a 10K block is reduced  
>> to 7K (or whatever size).  
>  
> Your right Barry but you lumped several selectable functions  
>together in FBB. Let me try and sort them out:  
>  
> 1. FBB only uses compression when in the F6FBB mode. If using the  
>MBL/RLI forwarding protocol, it NEVER uses compression.  
>

> 2. As a consequence of 1. above the forwarding can be compressed  
>or NOT, depending on a software switch. The "fixed block" is a software  
>switch telling the server what the maximum byte size will be.  
>  
> 3. If 1. and 2. call for compressed forwarding then EVERY block  
>of whatever size is compressed at the time it is forwarded. The messages  
>are not stored as compressed. The compression is "real time" just before  
>the forward.

Number 3 is partially wrong. When FBB compresses a message for the first time (first time it is proposed and accepted) it stores it in one of the BINMAIL directories, just like the uncompressed stuff in the MAIL directories. At times, there are two copies of any number of messages, the compressed ones, and the uncompressed ones. When each message is fully forwarded (to every station that is queued to get it) the binmail version is deleted. When you watch the console during forwarding, you will notice that sometimes it says "compressing etc..." and sometimes it says "sending compressed...". When it says sending compressed, it is sending one that was previously compressed and still available in the binmail directories.

..  
..

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 61. [BBSSIG:1553] Compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 7 Aug 1995 19:47:50 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508080047.TAA22224@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Roy Engehausen" <enge@almaden.ibm.com>  
Subject: Compression techniques

I am not an expert on compression but I have done some reading on the subject.

If you compress something, you have to give the other side a clue on how to decode the compression. If a 1 means the letter "a" then part of the stream that is sent is the information that 1 means a. These clues provide the distant end with the dictionary needed to uncompress the data. The net effect is that it is more efficient to compress a large amount of data as compared to a bunch of small pieces.

The world of communications and compression has changed since we started playing with packet radio. Years ago, telephone modems didn't have compression but now they all do whether it be MNP or V42.bis or other schemes. We need to look at these experiences for applicability to packet. Let's not reinvent the wheel.

The TCP/IP crowd has done some playing with LZH(?) compression on their links. How has that worked out?

Roy

Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

---

## 62. [BBSSIG:1554] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 7 Aug 1995 19:48:31 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508080048.TAA22232@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

On Sun, 6 Aug 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> I haven't been able to find out which is the better compression  
> method. My guess is that FBB can use pkzip version 1.10G which is slow  
> compared to 14,000 bits/sec but ok in forwarding at the usual speeds and  
> compresses things better than anything else I have seen.

This is something I did a few years ago when compression was a big thing for local land line bbses:

LZH: Best compression, not very fast.  
ARJ: Almost as good as LZH compression, the "fastest."

ZIP: Next "fastest," fair compression  
ARC: Worst for speed and compression.

My test was 5 files, that were 600k total. LZH compressed the lump down to 315k, arj was next with around 350k and everything else was slightly more than 400k, if memory serves me correct.

So, that's how it looks from this place.

This is something you can try at home, if you want to...

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg University \*  
\* Internet: wlarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlarn/ \*\*\*\*\*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

### 63. [BBSSIG:1555] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 7 Aug 1995 19:48:50 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508080048.TAA22239@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

On Sun, 6 Aug 1995 mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us wrote:

> > On Sun, 6 Aug 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
> >  
> >> Replying to Karl's comment -  
> >>  
> >> I believe that Roy AA4RE suggested a compression technique that is

snip

> > 3. If 1. and 2. call for compressed forwarding then EVERY block  
> > of whatever size is compressed at the time it is forwarded. The messages  
> > are not stored as compressed. The compression is "real time" just before  
> > the forward.  
>  
> Number 3 is partially wrong. When FBB compresses a message for the first  
> time (first time it is proposed and accepted) it stores it in one of the  
> BINMAIL directories, just like the uncompressed stuff in the MAIL  
> directories. At times, there are two copies of any number of messages, the  
> compressed ones, and the uncompressed ones. When each message is fully  
> forwarded (to every station that is queued to get it) the binmail version is  
> deleted. When you watch the console during forwarding, you will notice that  
> sometimes it says "compressing etc..." and sometimes it says "sending  
> compressed...". When it says sending compressed, it is sending one that was  
> previously compressed and still available in the binmail directories.  
> .

Gary your right of course. I have watched the \BINMAIL directory grow and wane with forwarding. I just didn't want to go into that much detail.

-karl

---

### 64. [BBSSIG:1556] Re: compression techniques - for more than c/s (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 7 Aug 1995 19:49:44 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508080049.TAA22246@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: compression techniques - for more than c/s

Many TNCs now include PACTOR and it's huffman compression algorithm (GTOR has somewhat more intelligent RLL and huffman compression).

Both are likely to be less efficient than the previously discussed block techniques but if it were possible to include support for huffman and RLL, on a non-exclusive basis, for your normal (non c/s users), I bet some of the packet TNC vendors can give you something to talk to in end user TNCs.

Just a thought.

--

Howard Goldstein  
N2WX

hg@n2wx.ampr.org  
<http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/>

---

## 65. [BBSSIG:1557] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 7 Aug 1995 19:50:22 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508080050.TAA22254@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

On Aug 6, 12:01pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1544] compression techniques  
> Replying to Karl's comment -  
>  
> I believe that Roy AA4RE suggested a compression technique that is  
> significantly different than FBB.  
>  
> As I understand it, FBB determines which msgs to send, then compresses  
> this fixed block of text and sends it. So a 10K block is reduced  
> to 7K (or whatever size).

Just a note on this topic: the "X block forwarding" will send up to 25 messages per block, and ends up almost exactly 50% compression efficiency, measured over 700 MB (that is almost one gig) of total forwarding from my system.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

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## 66. [BBSSIG:1558] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 7 Aug 1995 19:51:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508080051.TAA22272@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Re: client/server

At 10:13 AM 8/5/95 -0500, n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham) wrote:

>According to Andrew..

(answring question that our needs may be satisfied with lan-link and the like, perhaps extended with compression, and nothing else.)

>>If we're discussing meeting currently perceived "needs", then I'd say almost  
>>but not quite. However, if we're looking towards the future I'd say no.  
>>  
>How so? What future needs are you referring to?

Some we can name, as Hank Oredson wrote:

> My own view is that we should address at least  
> three areas: 1) email exchange; 2) point-to-multipoint (chat)  
> services; 3) use of unconnected and other less than totally reliable  
> modes.

Chat and muticast services can do a lot to reduce the bandwidth used by DX Clusters, and can be extremely useful for public service communications.

ARPS is becoming quite popular and useful -- we should include consideration of ARPS in our plans.

And there may well be other uses/needs which we don't now know of.

By their very nature we can't necessarily predict future needs. HOWEVER, we CAN PLAN FOR THEM by specifying an extensible protocol.

>>As I mentioned earlier, I think we need to add a standardized "long" list  
>>format which includes message IDs (MIDs) and a means to request messages  
>>based upon MIDs.  
>>  
>We could make message listings longer, thereby using up extra time and  
>spectrum, but if we do we should be able to point to a GREAT benefit in  
>order to make the change appear worthwhile.  
>Otherwise, you're just wasting time and spectrum to no particular purpose.

Charles, just because you can't see the benefit of something doesn't mean the benefit isn't there. And remember, we're discussing a protocol for C/S use with COMPRESSION! This will reduce bandwidth.

And for C/S use we need a means of IDing individual messages/bulletins. I'm pointing out that the existing MID will do this, and using it rather than the message number on a particular BBS has advantages.

>I'm not sure how it's done at your location, but here bulletins have a one  
>or two week "lifetime" on the BBS's.. Despite the fact that these bulls are  
>available all this time, I have NEVER had a user show an interest in an old,  
>killed bulletin. In fact, it's very SELDOM that anyone bothers to look at  
>bulls which are over a few days old.

Just because you haven't seen something doesn't mean others haven't.

And I was suggesting being able to get a list of killed messages/bulletins so the client can "know" when messages are now unavailable.

>Making message listings longer would slow things down EVERY DAY, whenever  
>bulletins are listed.. The alleged "benefit" would show itself very SELDOM,  
>if ever.  
>It sure does seem like a lot of trouble to go through, for a feature which  
>users here have never shown any likelihood to utilize.

C'mon, Charles! We're talking about a list format for C/S use, not for manula users. Some BBS software already has a similar feature (long list with MID, etc.). What I'm suggesting is to standardize the format so it can be useful for C/S use.

>>Even more powerful is another application of this element -- the ability to  
>>distribute complete message lists from Hub BBSs to outlying BBSs, but only  
>>the complete text of those messages the outlying BBS sysop configures his  
>>system to request. Users of outlying systems could list messages available  
>>"by request" as well as those available (full text) on the local system.  
>>  
>I don't consider making a user wait an hour or more to see the bulletins  
>they want as a "powerful feature". I can assure you that the users won't see  
>it as "powerful" either. They'd shortly be screaming for the OLD system.  
>Nobody likes to be forced to wait.  
>I don't presume to decide for my BBS's users which bulls should be  
>immediately available.

Charles, you don't get it.

Many sysops don't accept bulletins with certain subjects because their users rarely, if ever, read them. My proposal would make these messages -- now completely unavailable to the BBS's users -- available, albeit with a delay.

A delay is better than completely unavailable.

So this feature wouldn't be useful to you. Fine. If it's available in a future protocol spec you'll be able to configure your system to accept everything, so you won't need to take advantage of it.

But just because you can't see the benefit of this feature is no reason to deny it to others who can see it.

>>Something else we should look at, as others have already written, is  
>>Usenet-style newsgroups. This could be as simple as adding RFC-822 style  
>>Newsgroup headers to bulletins which could be used by BBS software in  
>>whatever way the author chooses. Or, we could do that and also add the  
>>newsgroup to the long list format I mentioned above. Doing so would provide  
>>an additional criterion BBSs and Client software users could use for  
>>automated bulletin selection/rejection.  
>  
>Here we go again, taking up more time/spectrum and having no significant  
>benefit to show for it.  
>We should be looking for ways to do MORE with LESS, not the other way around.

Again, you don't seem to get it.

Packet bandwidth is not a zero-sum game. And even if it were, re-read the  
above. One way a BBS could use newsgroup info is as a means to reject  
bulletins. So a small amount of additional data will result in considerably  
less being sent in total.

And with compression the total amount of data sent will be much less.

Charles, if you can't see the utility of a proposal then sit back for a  
while and see what others say. If no one says anything positive then jump  
right in and point out the flaws in the proposal. But if others seem to like  
it then consider what they're saying.

And realize that people propose things because they see them as addressing a  
need. Maybe you don't immediately see the need, but that doesn't mean it  
doesn't exist.

--

\_\_\_\_\_  
| Tech Producer/Editor                      Andrew Funk, KB7UV                      Internet: kb7uv@panix.com |  
| WCBS-TV Channel 2 News                      http://www.webcom.com/~arfunk/ |  
| New York, NY USA                      Writing for my self, not my employer! |

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## 67. [BBSSIG:1559] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 7 Aug 1995 19:53:55 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508080053.TAA22285@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dean R Madsen <dmadsen@iastate.edu>  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

>        3. If 1. and 2. call for compressed forwarding then EVERY block  
>of whatever size is compressed at the time it is forwarded. The messages  
>are not stored as compressed. The compression is "real time" just before  
>the forward.  
>

When FBB is going to send a message using compression, it first checks  
to see if it has a version of the message already compressed in the  
appropriate \FBB\BINMAIL\MAIL?\ subdirectory. If so, it sends the  
precompressed file, if not, it reads the plaintext message from the  
appropriate \FBB\MAIL\MAIL?\ subdirectory, compresses the message into  
a file in the \FBB\BINMAIL\MAIL?\ subdirectory and then sends the  
compressed file.

73,  
Dean - KE0W0

---

## 68. Shelton McAnelly, KD5SL

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Mon, 7 Aug 1995 21:54:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing), bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)  
Message-ID: <1995080800254.VAA13564@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

It is my sad duty to report the passing of Shelton McAnelly, KD5SL, of Baton  
Rouge, LA, this past Saturday (August 6th, 1995). Shelton was a long time  
supporter of packet radio and was a mainstay and prime leader on the HF  
packet network.

Shelton will be missed.

Greg Jones, WD5IVD

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## 69. [BBSSIG:1567] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 08:09:25 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508081309.IAA29548@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

On Sun, 6 Aug 1995 mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us wrote:

> > {Quoting my previous message}  
> > Unless FBB has changed significantly, it compresses each message  
> > separately. ....  
> > <SNIP>  
> > If you have watched an FBB on a slow machine  
> > doing forwarding, you'll notice the delay between it sending the proposals  
> > and the actual message especially if a message is more than about 2k long  
> > because it takes a while to compress the message from the ASCII file into  
> > another file.  
>  
> Not quite. It has to have a pause after the proposal anyway. ....  
> After the receiving station replies, the whole thing IS sent as one data  
> stream. Each message is not sent separately. They all combine into one.  
> The receiving station recovers each one at the marker that indicates the  
> end of each message.

Perhaps I didn't make myself clear. What I meant was that the 5 messages  
aren't collected into one large ASCII file which is then compressed and  
transmitted as one YAPP file - the 'marker' you mention is part of the  
YAPP protocol.

> > When I implemented compression into the Amiga version of C-BBS I made it  
> > do the compression on-the-fly and there's no delay between proposal and  
> > message.  
>  
> Then how does the receiving station tell the sending board what it wants and  
> doesn't want?

I meant that my implementation does not compress each message into a  
separate disk file first. It sends the proposal, receives the reply and  
then compresses each accepted message and transmits the output of the LZH  
routines immediately instead of writing it to a disk (and wraps each  
message in the YAPP protocol).

>  
> > It would be slightly more efficient if FBB were to collect up to 10k of  
> > messages together, compress them, and send them as one whacking big  
> > transmission.  
>  
> This IS how FBB works already.

No. As I've mentioned it compresses each message separately and then sends  
them together. The compression algorithm is, in effect, reset between  
each message. I was suggesting that it treat all 5 ASCII messages as one big  
one (presumably with a /EX added between them) and compress that.

> I don't remember for sure, but I 'think' there is a maximum of 5 messages  
> proposed, no matter how large the block is set.

Right.

In a subsequent message, Gary wrote:

> When FBB compresses a message for the first time (first time it is proposed  
> and accepted) it stores it in one of the BINMAIL directories,

Exactly my point. That message is not compressed with any of the others  
that are accepted in the same proposal. They are always kept separate.

> When you watch the console during forwarding, you will notice that  
> sometimes it says "compressing etc..." and sometimes it says "sending  
> compressed...".

Which is exactly my point about the delay. It does the compression \*after\* the reply to its proposal has been received. If the message to be sent hasn't yet been compressed and is a large one, FBB will pause before it starts transmitting the compressed message because it stores the compressed output in a disk file and \*then\* transmits the content of that file over the air. The length of the pause depends upon the speed of the machine, its disk drive and the size of the file being compressed.

73 de Pete  
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

---

## 70. [BBSSIG:1569] Re: Compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 08:14:36 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508081314.IAA29587@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Compression techniques

On Mon, 7 Aug 1995, Roy Engehausen wrote:

> I am not an expert on compression but I have done some reading on the  
> subject.  
>  
> If you compress something, you have to give the other side a clue on  
> how to decode the compression. If a 1 means the letter "a" then part  
> of the stream that is sent is the information that 1 means a. These  
> clues provide the distant end with the dictionary needed to uncompress  
> the data. The net effect is that it is more efficient to compress a  
> large amount of data as compared to a bunch of small pieces.  
>  
> The world of communications and compression has changed since we  
> started playing with packet radio. Years ago, telephone modems didn't  
> have compression but now they all do whether it be MNP or V42.bis or  
> other schemes. We need to look at these experiences for applicability  
> to packet. Let's not reinvent the wheel.

>  
> The TCP/IP crowd has done some playing with LZH(?) compression on  
> their links. How has that worked out?

I use LZH on my JNOS but haven't paid any real attention to it's  
implmentation. For sure it's done on the fly. Nothing is saved for long  
periods on the HD. And it works fine combined with a SMTP. It can be used  
with a FTP file transfer but I .zip all my files so have that turned off.

Good chance to put in my 2 cents on configuration. PLEASE, let  
the sysop and user have wide latitude on how to configure the software.  
JNOS has almost too much. That is the side to error on....hi

-karl

>  
> Roy  
>  
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com  
>  
>

---

## 71. [BBSSIG:1572] Re: compression techniques (fwd)



From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 19:48:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508090048.TAA04606@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

For some, this exchange may seem like a so-what issue. However, I know there are many who look to these groups to glean information about things that they don't understand, as I do. I was merely trying to include some corrective detail for those who might be misled by some of the abbreviated comments that were being made (thanks Karl).

>> After the receiving station replies, the whole thing IS sent as one data  
>> stream. Each message is not sent separately. They all combine into one.  
>> The receiving station recovers each one at the marker that indicates the  
>> end of each message.  
>  
>Perhaps I didn't make myself clear. What I meant was that the 5 messages  
>aren't collected into one large ASCII file which is then compressed and  
>transmitted as one YAPP file - the 'marker' you mention is part of the  
>YAPP protocol.

Yes, I understand that each message is compressed into a separate file. This might lead to some small inefficiency caused by the overhead in each compressed file, versus a single file. However, over the air...

>I meant that my implementation does not compress each message into a  
>separate disk file first. It sends the proposal, receives the reply and  
>then compresses each accepted message and transmits the output of the LZH  
>routines immediately instead of writing it to a disk (and wraps each  
>message in the YAPP protocol).

This means that when one of those message is sent to another bbs, it has to be recompressed, taking more time than if it had been saved as a compressed file the first time. If it is already compressed, it just starts sending it, without delay.

>> >It would be slightly more efficient if FBB were to collect up to 10k of  
>> >messages together, compress them, and send them as one whacking big  
>> >transmission.  
>>  
>> This IS how FBB works already.  
>  
>No. As I've mentioned it compresses each message separately and then sends  
>them together. The compression algorithm is, in effect, reset between  
>each message. I was suggesting that it treat all 5 ASCII messages as one big  
>one (presumably with a /EX added between them) and compress that.

As I started above... ..over the air, the data looks like one continuous stream. There is not a break at the end of each message. The whole thing goes out as one. As the receiving bbs gets to the break marker between messages, it decodes that message - WHILE STILL RECEIVING DATA FOR THE NEXT ONE as a continuous stream. By the way, when the sending bbs compresses, it begins sending data as soon as the first one is compressed. While data is being sent, the next one is compressed etc. Before the end of the first message is reached, all 5 have been compressed and are tacked onto the data stream in succession without break. Except on a very fast computer, you will probably lose anything gained in a single file scenario with the amount of time it takes to compress all 5 files before it starts sending.

I suspect that in a wireline hookup between boards, and at high enough baud rate, it might be possible to speed things up slightly by making the original message into one file before being sent. However, at real world speeds, I see no advantage. I run 9600 between three computers with BPQ. Two of them run FBB and one runs TPK. Even at 9600, there is no pause between messages on the FBB boards when they forward to each other in compressed mode.

>In a subsequent message, Gary wrote:  
>  
>> When FBB compresses a message for the first time (first time it is proposed  
>> and accepted) it stores it in one of the BINMAIL directories,  
>  
>Exactly my point. That message is not compressed with any of the others  
>that are accepted in the same proposal. They are always kept separate.

Except in the data output. It leaves as a continuous set of data and is broken back into individual files by the receiving station. Since the slowest part of the process is the rf path, any encode/decode delays are moot.

The obvious answer to all of this is on-the-fly compression, as the others have been talking about. Then, the software would just dump the data into the modem and let IT do the compression as it goes, just like we are doing via LL. The compression takes place by a separate processor and doesn't task the one in the board. This is much faster.

How practical is that to do? I don't know, not my area of expertise. Someone else can argue that one out and I'll ask questions as they arise.

Not trying to be argumentative, just trying to get the facts straight.

..  
..

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 72. [BBSSIG:1573] BBS Wishes > Oscar Broadcast Protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 19:52:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508090052.TAA04626@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: NSIST@aol.com  
Subject: BBS Wishes > Oscar Broadcast Protocol

Subj: BBS Wishes > Oscar Broadcast Protocol  
Date: 08/02/95  
To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us

In a message dated 95-08-01 07:24:17 EDT, you write:

>I want this to be taken to the next level - a user program should capture  
>the bulletins you're interested in, either by picking up a multicast from  
>the BBS or stealing it when somebody else reads it - so they're just  
>there when you want to look at them. And it should do this all in the  
>background while you're using the computer/system for something else.

>

>A nice winter project, eh?

>

>73, Bill

>

>Bill Vodall Box 75 Kevin, Mt 59454 1-406-337-2222

>Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us

>Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

>

>

Hi Bill:

Has anyone looked at the protocol the Oscars are using to broadcast messages, big files, etc. Maybe the software could be used in a local rf "LAN".

I think stations can request missing frames after the file has been broadcast.

I think WB5EKW once told me he can receive over 100Kbytes in a ten minute

Oscar pass using 9600 baud. Using a broadcast protocol on a duplex digipeater with a bit regenerator sure sounds like a interesting approach to move some serious traffic.

73,  
Wade

---

## 73. [BBSSIG:1574] Searches on the Message Base (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 19:53:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508090053.TAA04633@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: NSIST@aol.com  
Subject: Searches on the Message Base

In a message dated 95-08-04 20:29:56 EDT, Howard Goldstein wrote:

```
>On Thu, 3 Aug 1995, Andrew Funk wrote:
>
>>
>> As I mentioned earlier, I think we need to add a standardized "long" list
>> format which includes message IDs (MIDs) and a means to request messages
>> based upon MIDs.
>>
>
>Does anyone _dislike_ Andrew's idea? I'd love it, would add one thing to
>it, ability to do searches on the message base. Result: distributed data
>base.
>---
>Howard Goldstein
>hg@n2wx.ampr.org
> N2WX
>http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/
```

There is a add-on server for FBB called BSCAN. At housekeeping it refers to a data file that has up to twenty search strings for every user that has stored them for use. BSCAN looks at all parts of the bulletin, include the text, for matches and creates a message to each user. That message includes the message header for each message there was a "hit" on. It runs pretty fast and there is no maintenance to be done. A message is sent for no matches, too.

73,  
Wade

---

#### 74. [BBSSIG:1575] FBB Docs: Forward Protocole (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 19:53:58 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508090053.TAA04640@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: NSIST@aol.com  
Subject: FBB Docs: Forward Protocole

An Excerpt from FBB Docs

APPENDIX -6- FBB Forward Protocole.  
-----

FBB software includes two forward protocoles. The first one is standard with MBL/RLI protocole. The second one was developed to allow efficiency, particularly on long links where propagation time of data are long. The exchange of commands is reduced to a minimum, and not acknowledged to save time. The data transfer direction is changed every block of data, a block of data holding up to five messages. This uses the "pipeline" effect of long links (Nodes and digipeaters), and gain some time over short links (HF...).

FBB protocole is very simple in its principle. It is based on MID/BID usage. The identification is made by the F letter in the SID (system type identifier contained in square brackets). All command lines must start in first collumn with the 'F' character. All command lines are ended by a return (CR) character.

Suppose I call another BBS to forward some mail. When I connect another BBS using FBB protocole, I will receive the SID followed by a text and the prompt (">"). If the SID contains the F flag, I will send immediately my SID and the first proposal.

Proposals looks like :

```
FB P F6FBB FC1GHV FC1MVP 24657_F6FBB 1345
F> HH
```

FB : Identifies the type of the command (proposal)  
P : Type of message (P = Private, B = Bulletin).  
F6FBB : Sender (from field).

FC1GHV : BBS of recipient (@field).  
FC1MVP : Recipient (to field).  
24657\_F6FBB : BID ou MID.  
1345 : Size of message in bytes.  
F> : End of proposal.  
HH is optional. It is the checksum of the whole proposal in hexadecimal.

ALL the fields are necessary. This kind of command must hold seven fields.  
If a field is missing upon receiving, an error message will be send  
immediately followed by a disconnection.

A proposal can handle up to five FB command lines. If the total size of  
messages seems to be too important, the proposal can handle less lines. In  
FBB software, a parameter is defined in INIT.SRV file to tell the maximum  
size of the message block. It is set by default to 10KB.

Example of proposal :

```
FB P F6FBB FC1GHV.FFPC.FRA.EU FC1MVP 24657_F6FBB 1345
FB P FC1CDC F6ABJ F6AXV 24643_F6FBB 5346
FB B F6FBB FRA FBB 22_456_F6FBB 8548
F> HH
```

This proposal is limited to three FB lines, as the amount of messages  
overran the 10KB limit.

When receiving the proposal, the other BBS will reject, accept or defer the  
message. This command is made by a FS line :

FS -+=

This means :

FBB 5.15                                      Feb 06 1993                                      Page -  
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- I don't want the first message (-).
- I need the second message (+).
- I defer the third message, as I'm still receiving it from another bbs

It should interesting to defer a message if you are still receiving it on a  
other channel, or if you think that the size is to big, or for another  
reason. The message should be proposed again at the next connection.

FS line MUST have as many +,-,= signs as lines in the proposal.

When receiving the FS lines, I can send the block of messages. Each message  
is made with the title on the first line, the text, and a Ctrl Z in the last  
line. The is no blank line between the messages.

```
Title of 2nd message
Text of 2nd message
.....
^Z
```

When the other BBS has received all the asked messages, it acknowledges by  
sending its proposal, and the system is reversed.

If it has no message to send, it only sends a line :

FF

This line must not to be followed by a F>.

If the other hand has no message, it sends a line :

FQ

and asks for the disconnection.

Example :  
-----

```
F6FBB FC1GHV

Connects FC1GHV
```

Connected

[FBB-5.11-FHM\$]  
Bienvenue a Poitiers, Jean-Paul.  
>

[FBB-5.11-FHM\$] (F6FBB has the F flag in the SID)  
FB P F6FBB FC1GHV.FFPC.FRA.EU FC1MVP 24657\_F6FBB 1345  
FB P FC1CDC F6ABJ F6AXV 24643\_F6FBB 5346  
FB B F6FBB FRA FBB 22\_456\_F6FBB 8548  
F> HH

FS ++ (accepts the 1st and the 3rd).

Title 1st message  
Text 1st message  
.....  
^Z  
Title 3rd message

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Text 3rd message  
.....  
^Z

FB P FC1GHV F6FBB F6FBB 2734\_FC1GHV 234  
FB B FC1GHV F6FBB FC1CDC 2745\_FC1GHV 3524  
F> HH

FS -- (Don't need them, and send immediately the proposal).  
FB P FC1CDC F6ABJ F6AXV 24754\_F6FBB 345  
F> HH

FS + (Accepts the message)

Title message  
Text message  
.....  
^Z

FF (no more message)

FB B F6FBB TEST FRA 24654\_F6FBB 145  
F> HH

FS + (Accepts the message)

Title message  
Text message  
.....  
^Z

FF (still no message)

FQ (No more message)

Disconnection of the link.

In this example, FBB protocole is used as the two BBS were identified by the F flag in the SID. If F6FBB had sent the SID [FBB-5.11-MH\$] when answering FC1GHV, the protocole should be the standard MBL/RLI.

All callsigns are only examples !  
-END-

---

## 75. [BBSSIG:1576] FBB Docs: UI Protocol (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 19:54:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508090054.TAA04647@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: N5IST@aol.com  
Subject: FBB Docs: UI Protocol

An excerpt from the FBB Docs

#### APPENDIX -15- UNPROTO LISTS.

-----

FBB software allows sending unproto lists of message. This is validated separately on each port (letter L in PORT.SYS). Unproto address is FBB with the following header :

fm F6FBB-1 to FBB ctl UI

An unproto list line is sent on every validated port each time a message is recorded. The line is in the form :

12345 B 2053 TEST@ALL F6FBB 920325 This is the subject

If a message number is missing or does not exist the line will be :

12346 #

This allows a system listening to the UI packets on a frequency to create a list identical to the one of the BBS, and then the user will not have to connect the BBS to know the list of messages and bulletins.

A control can be done on the number of the messages to check if a line is missing.

If the remote system receives a new line, and a line is missing, it only has to send an unproto frame addressed to the BBS callsign like this :

fm FC1EBN-3 to F6FBB-1 ctl UI  
? 00002EE00E

This will be taken in account only if the user has the U flag validated (EU command).

If the user has not his flag validated in the BBS, he will receive a line like :

fm F6FBB-1 to FBB ctl UI  
12200 / callsign

In this case, the remote software MUST stop asking unprotoes.

The first 8 digits are the hexadecimal number of the requested start of the list (here 00002EE0 -> 12000) and the last two digits are the sum of the four bytes anded with FF (0E).

The BBS will then starts sending lines from the requested number up to the last message number.

If the number requested seems to be too far from the current line, the BBS can readjust the request of "callsign" while sending :

fm F6FBB-1 to FBB ctl UI  
12200 ! CALLSIGN  
12201 B 2040 TEST@FRA F6FBB 920325 This is a bulletin  
12202 #  
12203 P 206 F6ABJ@F6ABJ F6FBB 920325 Hello Remy.  
etc...

and then starts sending lines from 12201. The remote system must change its base number to 12201.

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If the number requested is greater than the last message received in the BBS, the BBS will send a line like :

12300 !!

This indicates that the list in the remote system is up to date. The last received message in the BBS is 12300.

The remote system can also connect the BBS and ask for messages in binary

compressed mode using the following sequence :

| BBS                                                                               | Remote system      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| -----                                                                             |                    |
|                                                                                   | Connection request |
| Connection.                                                                       |                    |
| [FBB-5.14-ABFHM\$]<br>Welcome in Toulouse, Gerard.<br>F6FBB BBS>                  |                    |
| 1>                                                                                | [TPK-1.80-\$]      |
|                                                                                   | F< #Msg            |
| Binary compressed message #Msg<br>is sent using format described<br>in appendix 7 |                    |
| 1>                                                                                |                    |
|                                                                                   | Disconnect.        |

From TPK version 1.80 (packet communication program developped by FC1EBN),  
this protocole is implemented.  
-END-

## 76. [BBSSIG:1577] FBB Docs: Compressed forwarding (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 19:54:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508090054.TAA04654@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: N5IST@aol.com  
Subject: FBB Docs: Compressed forwarding

An excerpt from te FBB Docs

APPENDIX -7- Extension to the protocole. Compressed forward FBB.  
-----

The protocole utilized for the transfer of ascii files compressed is an extension to the existing protocole. The compressed forward is validated by the presence of the letter B in the SID [FBB-5.12-BFHM\$]. The transfer of compressed files can only take place under FBB protocole. The presence of the letter B in the SID without the F letter will remain without effect.

The only difference as regard to the standard protocol is the submit line. It can specify the type of data contained in the compressed message. FA means that the transfer will be an ascii compressed message. FB means that the message will be a binary compressed file (this last possibility is not yet implemented in the version 5.12).

[Note: 5.15c is a latest version. I don't know the status of the FB label. de N5IST]

The submission of an ascii message will be in the form :  
FA P FC1CDC F6ABJ F6AXV 24754\_F6FBB 345

The submission of a binary file will be in the form :  
FB P FC1CDC F6ABJ F6AXV 24754\_F6FBB 345

The transfered data are of a specific format. The transfer will be done in binary mode. This last one is derived of the YAPP protocol which is very reliable. All transfer is made of a header, a block of data, an end of message and a checksum. Each transfer is equivalent to the transfer of one message of the standard protocol and shall not be followed by a control Z, the end of file specifier is defined in another way.

Format of header for an ascii compressed message (submission FA) :

<SOH> 1 byte = 01 hex  
Length of the header 1 byte = Length from the title,  
including the two <NUL> characters.  
Title of the message 1 to 80 bytes  
<NUL> 1 byte = 00 hex  
Offset 1 to 6 bytes  
<NUL> 1 byte = 00 hex

Format of header for a binary compressed file (submission FB) :

<SOH> 1 byte = 01 hex  
Length of the header 1 byte = Length from the filename,  
including the two <NUL> characters.  
Name of the file 1 to 80 bytes  
<NUL> 1 byte = 00 hex  
Offset 1 to 6 bytes  
<NUL> 1 byte = 00 hex

As to follow the french regulation, the title of the message or the file name are transmitted in ascii, not compressed.

The offset is also transmitted in ascii and specifies the offset at which the data should be inserted in the file (in case of a fragmented file). In the version 5.12, this parameter is not utilized and is always equal to zero.

A data block contains from one to 256 bytes. It begins by two bytes which specify the format.

Data block format :

<STX> 1 byte = 02 hex  
Number of data 1 byte = 00 to ff hex. (00 if length = 256 bytes).

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Data bytes 1 to 256 bytes

The last data block is followed by the end of file specifier and the checksum.

End of file specifier format :

<EOT> 1 byte = 04 hex  
Checksum 1 byte = 00 a ff hex

The checksum is equal to the sum of all the data bytes of the transmitted file, modulo 256 (8 bits) and then two's complemented.

The checking of the checksum is very simple :

The sum of the datas from the file and the checksum received modulo 256 (anded with FF) shall be equal to zero.

In case of a checksum error, the message or the file is not taken to account and the system issues a disconnect request after having sent the comment :

\*\*\* Checksum error  
-END-

---

## 77. KD5SL SK

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 21:05:05 -0500 (CDT)  
To: tapr-bb@tapr.org (TAPR-BB mailing), psr@tapr.org (PSR),  
bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing)  
Message-ID: <199508090205.VAA15445@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

According to Adam Tate:  
Date: Tue, 8 Aug 1995 16:44:39 -0500 (CDT)  
From: Adam Tate <atate@tyrell.net>  
Subject: KD5SL SK (fwd)

You've probably already heard this news from me or someone else, but I felt that I should post this as somewhat of a formality.

Shelton, KD5SL, passed away sometime between midday Friday and Sunday evening. The exact cause of his death is currently unknown, but sources close to him (Milton, KA5JPH) report that he "died in his chair," evidently a peaceful passing. Hams suspected that something wasn't right when Shelton failed to show up for the 9:00 pm net Sunday on 145.49. After playing the Newsline and taking checkins to the net, Gary, KC5BMA, drove over to Shelton's house. After receiving no answer to his knocks at the door, he called Robert, Shelton's younger son, who entered the house.

KD5SL's life was marked by many interesting experiences. He studied Chemical Engineering at LSU during the late 30's and early 40's. He then



joined the U.S. Navy, serving as an Ensign and attending radar and electronics school at Harvard and MIT. After obtaining his J.D. degree, he worked for the U.S. Patent Office as a patent attorney. My recollection (not entirely accurate) is that he settled in Baton Rouge about 1955 or so.

Having already been active in CB radio, Shelton obtained his first ham license in 1979. He served as president of BRARC in the early 80's, then went on to found RASC in 1984. In 1986 he began work with packet, then the newest mode in ham radio, and started Baton Rouge's first packet BBS. Over the years he built BTR's packet facilities to be the best in Louisiana and among the best in the country, including nodes/digipeaters on 145.01, 145.07, 145.09, and 446.1 MHz, and his ever-growing packet BBS with forwarding facilities on 15, 20, and 30 meters. Beginning in 1992, he maintained a telephone BBS which at one time included more than 10 CD-ROMs online. Last but certainly not least, he built and maintained the 145.49 repeater since the founding of RASC.

KD5SL was also well-known for his activities in public service. In the four years that I have known him I have seen him work countless balloon championships, road races, hurricane shelters, Senior and Special Olympics, LPB telethons, outdoor concerts...the list goes on. His dedication to public service in Baton Rouge will probably be his most-missed quality.

Shelton was known to all of us as a powerful and sometimes stubborn leader, but there was never any doubt that he could get any job done. When I first discovered ham radio in 1991, Shelton was my first contact/"Elmer", and I soon discovered that he never missed the chance to help out another young person in ham radio. Instead of treating youths as youths are often accustomed to being treated by other hams, he treated them as he would his own friends. He will be sorely missed.

73, Adam, AB5PO

---

## 78. [BBSSIG:1585] Re: Compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 9 Aug 1995 08:58:24 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508091358.IAA12241@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Re: Compression techniques

>  
> The TCP/IP crowd has done some playing with LZH(?) compression on  
> their links. How has that worked out?  
>  
> Roy Engehausen -- AA4RE -- enge@almaden.ibm.com

JNOS has both LZW and LZHUF (FBB style) compression. I see an average of 20 to 30% using LZW and around 45% with LZHUF.

I believe that both rely on "learning" and thus optimizing the bit patterns. So the bigger the file or message - the better they work. I wonder if, given the nature of our bulletins and messages, we couldn't come up with a scheme using a set compression table that would give equivalent compression ratios faster and easier. The characters and patterns used in ASCII messages are fairly consistent.

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

---

## 79. Efficient Reliable Group Communication for Distributed Systems

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Wed, 9 Aug 1995 14:59:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org (BBS SIG mailing), netsig@tapr.org (NETSIG mailing)  
Cc: hg@n2wx.mpcs.com (Howard Goldstein)  
Message-ID: <199508091959.OAA24761@Leslie-Francis.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Dirk-Jan Koopman has asked us to make the following PS file available on ftp.tapr.org. It has been placed in tapr/general in the ftp area. This is an excellent paper.

Date: Wed, 9 Aug 1995 11:05:40 +0100 (BST)  
From: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>

group.ps.gz contains a postscript file on:

Efficient Reliable Group Communications for Distributed Systems

M. Frans Kaashoek  
MIT Laboratory for Computer Science  
Cambridge, MA

Andrew S Tanenbaum  
Dept of Math and Comp Science  
Vrije Universiteit  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

#### Abstract

Many applications can profit from broadcast communication, but few operating systems provide primitives that make broadcast communications available to use applications. ...

--

Dirk-Jan Koopman      Tel/Fax: +44 1362 696076 Mobile: +44 973 333806  
Computer Consultant   Email: djk@dirku.demon.co.uk or GITLH@GB7TLH.#35.GBR.EU  
"The typewriting machine, when played with expression, is no more annoying than  
the piano when played by a sister or near relation." --Oscar Wilde

---

### 80. [BBSSIG:1587] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 9 Aug 1995 16:46:01 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508092146.QAA15974@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Peter Hardie <hardie@herald.usask.ca>  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

On Tue, 8 Aug 1995 mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us wrote:

> For some, this exchange may seem like a so-what issue. However, I know  
> there are many who look to these groups to glean information about things  
> that they don't understand, as I do.

Referring to the YAPP protocol as "breaks" between the messages doesn't indicate understanding to me. Be that as it may, I won't belabour this issue any further because N5IST has posted the FBB documentation of the protocol used for transmitting compressed messages. Anyone interested in the gory details of the content of an FBB compressed transmission can read it. If there are any questions about it I can probably answer them because, as I mentioned previously, I wrote the code that implemented this protocol in Amiga C-BBS. FWIW, during that process I found a mistake in the compression code that was also distributed with FBB along with those docs that N5IST posted (thanks squire).

73 de Pete  
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

---

### 81. [BBSSIG:1590] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 10 Aug 1995 08:16:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508101316.IAA24872@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

>  
>

> Yes, I understand that each message is compressed into a separate file.  
> This might lead to some small inefficiency caused by the overhead in each  
> compressed file, versus a single file. However, over the air...

There would be a slight improvement in compression efficiency when processing 1 large block instead of the 5 smaller ones. This, I believe accounts for the 50% compression that Hank see's with his X mode compared to the average 45% on FBB.

I heard it was a legal requirement in the F6FBB homeland that the

message headers be broadcast in plain text. That probably has something to do with how the current scheme was designed.

Adding compression into a TNC would be nice but I believe there are some fairly significant technical problems. Most schemes work much better on large blocks of information. Compression on 256 bytes usually ends up increasing rather than decreasing the size of data. Grouping the data packets together would probably require some fairly large tables in memory that's not always available in a TNC. If it's known ahead of time that the data is strictly ASCII, some tricks can be done to stuff the 80 or so ASCII characters efficiently into 8 bit bytes. This is probably a good area for some experimentation.

Hmmm. Maybe if I carried out my idea of negotiated pseudo paths using extended SSID's - it would be possible to add compression as an option to the scheme.

Boy - there's still lots of possibilities here for improvment and new ideas in the packet system.

> Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N

Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

> .

---

## 82. [BBSSIG:1592] Re: client/server (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 10 Aug 1995 17:58:13 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508102258.RAA03779@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: client/server

According to Andrew..

>

>>>If we're discussing meeting currently perceived "needs", then I'd say almost

>>>but not quite. However, if we're looking towards the future I'd say no.

>>>

>>How so? What future needs are you referring to?

>

>Some we can name, as Hank Oredson wrote:

>

>> My own view is that we should address at least

>> three areas: 1) email exchange; 2) point-to-multipoint (chat)

>> services; 3) use of unconnected and other less than totally reliable

>> modes.

>

>Chat and muticast services can do a lot to reduce the bandwidth used by DX

>Clusters, and can be extremely useful for public service communications.

>

And how does this relate to adding MIDS to message listings?

>ARPS is becoming quite popular and useful -- we should include consideration  
>of ARPS in our plans.

>

That's nice, but again I see no need there for making message listings  
longer either.

>And there may well be other uses/needs which we don't now know of.

>

>By their very nature we can't necessarily predict future needs. HOWEVER, we

>CAN PLAN FOR THEM by specifying an extensible protocol.

>

>

My point is that of course we can use up more spectrum, but before we DO, we  
should have a great benifit to show for it. It will also have to be  
something which CAN'T be done just as well by more clever use of what we  
already have.

>>>As I mentioned earlier, I think we need to add a standardized "long" list

>>>format which includes message IDs (MIDS) and a means to request messages

>>>based upon MIDS.

>>>  
>>We could make message listings longer, thereby using up extra time and  
>>spectrum, but if we do we should be able to point to a GREAT benefit in  
>>order to make the change appear worthwhile.  
>>Otherwise, you're just wasting time and spectrum to no particular purpose.  
>  
>Charles, just because you can't see the benefit of something doesn't mean  
>the benefit isn't there. And remember, we're discussing a protocol for C/S  
>use with COMPRESSION! This will reduce bandwidth.  
>  
The FBB/TPK C/S pair uses compression just fine without extending the  
message listings. If you can do it without using up extra space/spectrum,  
that's ALWAYS the best way to go.

>And for C/S use we need a means of IDing individual messages/bulletins. I'm  
>pointing out that the existing MID will do this, and using it rather than  
>the message number on a particular BBS has advantages.  
>  
>  
>>I'm not sure how it's done at your location, but here bulletins have a one  
>>or two week "lifetime" on the BBS's.. Despite the fact that these bulls are  
>>available all this time, I have NEVER had a user show an interest in an old,  
>>killed bulletin. In fact, it's very SELDOM that anyone bothers to look at  
>>bulls which are over a few days old.  
>  
>  
>Just because you haven't seen something doesn't mean others haven't.  
>  
I think we can safely assume that this "need" shows itself very  
infrequently, and can hardly be a guiding influence in C/S design.  
As it stands now, a BBS SYSOP can "keep" his messages as long as he has  
storage media to put it on. Most SYSOPs don't, and there's good reason for  
this. The reason being that there is very little call for old bulletins and  
messages.

>And I was suggesting being able to get a list of killed messages/bulletins  
>so the client can "know" when messages are now unavailable.  
>  
>>Making message listings longer would slow things down EVERY DAY, whenever  
>>bulletins are listed.. The alleged "benefit" would show itself very SELDOM,  
>>if ever.  
>>It sure does seem like a lot of trouble to go through, for a feature which  
>>users here have never shown any likelihood to utilize.  
>  
>C'mon, Charles! We're talking about a list format for C/S use, not for  
>manula users. Some BBS software already has a similar feature (long list  
>with MID, etc.). What I'm suggesting is to standardize the format so it can  
>be useful for C/S use.  
>  
>

I understand what you're saying. I don't agree that the extension is really  
needed in order for C/S software to fly.

>>>Even more powerful is another application of this element -- the ability to  
>>>distribute complete message lists from Hub BBSs to outlying BBSs, but only  
>>>the complete text of those messages the outlying BBS sysop configures his  
>>>system to request. Users of outlying systems could list messages available  
>>>"by request" as well as those available (full text) on the local system.  
>>>  
>>I don't consider making a user wait an hour or more to see the bulletins  
>>they want as a "powerful feature". I can assure you that the users won't see  
>>it as "powerful" either. They'd shortly be screaming for the OLD system.  
>>Nobody likes to be forced to wait.  
>>I don't presume to decide for my BBS's users which bulls should be  
>>immediately available.  
>  
>Charles, you don't get it.  
>  
Get what?

>Many sysops don't accept bulletins with certain subjects because their users  
>rarely, if ever, read them. My proposal would make these messages -- now  
>completely unavailable to the BBS's users -- available, albeit with a delay.  
>  
>A delay is better than completely unavailable.  
>  
There are SYSOPs who do as you say, but I don't know of VERY many. I've  
always thought the idea of "shovel it all down the line" was pretty common.  
What WOULD be very common in the system you suggest would be delays which

the users will find to be unimpressive.. Setting it up would DISCOURAGE "shovel it all down the line", and lead us into distribution problems, which would be the greatest delaying factor. Store 'n forward messaging DEPENDS on the great majority of BBS stations shovelling it all down the line.

>So this feature wouldn't be useful to you. Fine. If it's available in a  
>future protocol spec you'll be able to configure your system to accept  
>everything, so you won't need to take advantage of it.  
>  
>But just because you can't see the benefit of this feature is no reason to  
>deny it to others who can see it.  
>

As far as I know, my comments haven't denied anything to anybody. They're just my comments.

>  
>Again, you don't seem to get it.  
>  
>Packet bandwidth is not a zero-sum game. And even if it were, re-read the  
>above. One way a BBS could use newsgroup info is as a means to reject  
>bulletins. So a small amount of additional data will result in considerably  
>less being sent in total.  
>

I disagree with that. Rejecting bulletins, then having a separate system to call for them later will only tend to throw a monkey-wrench in our present distribution system, with no comparable service to show for it. It uses up more spectrum to do less, and more slowly. I just can't see it as gaining much popularity.

>Charles, if you can't see the utility of a proposal then sit back for a  
>while and see what others say. If no one says anything positive then jump  
>right in and point out the flaws in the proposal. But if others seem to like  
>it then consider what they're saying.  
>

I guess there's a hidden meaning in there somewhere..

>And realize that people propose things because they see them as addressing a  
>need. Maybe you don't immediately see the need, but that doesn't mean it  
>doesn't exist.  
>

I'm very limited as to what I'll take on faith. I'm much more easily impressed with facts and clear logic.  
My feeling is that if an idea has merit, it will need little defence.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

If a man speaks of his honour, make him pay cash.

---

### 83. [BBSSIG:1593] Re: compression techniques (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 10 Aug 1995 17:58:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508102258.RAA03788@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: compression techniques

According to Gary..

>The obvious answer to all of this is on-the-fly compression, as the others  
>have been talking about. Then, the software would just dump the data into  
>the modem and let IT do the compression as it goes, just like we are doing  
>via LL. The compression takes place by a separate processor and doesn't  
>task the one in the board. This is much faster.  
>

I can see some great benefits which would result from doing our compression all the time, and through our "hardware". We could just have all the applications send straight text, which would simplify matters a bit.

Where's the "catch" ??

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

If a man speaks of his honour, make him pay cash.

---

#### 84. [BBSSIG:1595] Re: Searches on the Message Base (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 10 Aug 1995 17:59:43 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508102259.RAA03799@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: fljkj@planete.net (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Subject: Re: Searches on the Message Base

Hi,

>>> As I mentioned earlier, I think we need to add a standardized "long" list  
>>> format which includes message IDs (MIDs) and a means to request messages  
>>> based upon MIDs.

While on this topic, i've always been surprised by the message base format  
used by FBB (don't know others).  
One message=One file is consuming disk space (and time to search into the base).

Here, we have to defrag from time to time, to avoid "message not found"  
errors...

In FidoNet, different formats exist. One of them is the "same" but it is  
known as the worst one.  
Hudson, Jam or Sqish are other solutions, more powerful...

>From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ -- PGP Email welcome  
> F1JKJ@planete.net < Public Key on mail servers  
Fidonet 2:323/27.1  
Compuserve ID 100407,436

---

#### 85. [BBSSIG:1600] QEMM/SAMAPI problem (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 13 Aug 1995 15:53:40 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508132053.PAA05251@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: QEMM/SAMAPI problem

I have just acquired another computer, a 486dx2, running at 80Mhz. It is  
lacking enough ram to replace my work computer at this time, so I'm wanting  
to put the board (FBB) on it until I can afford another simm or two. It  
currently has 4 meg installed. I have FBB running fine with BPQ. However,  
if I try to load SAMAPI so that the callbook will work, I get into trouble.  
Even doing everything manually...fresh boot, load SAMAPI, it looks good, no  
error message. However, as soon as it is loaded, it refuses to load and  
execute any more dos programs, saying either "Cannot execute xxxx" or just  
giving a EXTENDED ERROR 4 message. A simple DIR command works fine, but  
nothing that calls a program works.

Does this ring a bell with anyone? I'm running the same configuration on  
two other computers, a 386 and a 286, and have had no problems until trying  
to make this new one work. The 386 has 8 meg of ram but the 286 only has 4  
and it works fine there.

Any help would be appreciated, either via the net or direct. Thank you.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

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#### 86. [BBSSIG:1602] Re: QEMM/SAMAPI problem (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 13 Aug 1995 22:26:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508140326.WAA06778@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: QEMM/SAMAPI problem

I heard somewhere that one should not followup one's own message. However, the problem is solved. For those who are curious, I had neglected to generate a good config.sys file and all that was required was a stacks=0,0 statement to make the problem go away. This was discovered with the help of Manifest.

Anyone have any cheap 72 pin simms to dump on the needy?

Thanks for any and all replies on the original problem. None have come in yet, but I just received my own posting.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

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## 87. 1. Multicast

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 14 Aug 1995 21:26:28 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508150226.VAA21969@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

### 1. Multicast

**Definition:** A protocol with a single transmitting station and multiple receiving stations.

**Benefit:** Reduced channel loading. Faster distribution of bulletins.

**Discussion:** In the basic system, one station is able to transmit to multiple stations. A number of supporting features enhance the basic system and make the system significantly more robust.

This technique has the potential for supporting a number of applications, BBS to BBS forwarding, BBS to user, and user to user applications such as Round Table discussions.

In the BBS forwarding and BBS to user applications, it is desirable for receiving stations to capture partial messages. A number of scenarios can be created which would allow a user or BBS which is missing a portion of a message to request and receive a fill. This could be done automatically, on demand and the request can be sent to the originating station or to a peer (another user or BBS which is easier to access).

Candidate Technologies: AMSAT PB/PG style, tbd

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## 88. Discussion Summary

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 14 Aug 1995 21:28:57 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508150228.VAA22025@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello all,

I haven't been asleep, although I did blink out for a few minutes.

The Browns are hammering the Bears as I write this. A nice contrast to the Texas wx we've been having here in the midwest.

I've put together a summary of some of the past months discussions and I'm posting them in separate messages. That will make it easier for you to comment on specific points.

The discussions have gone very well and everyone recognizes the benefits of the discussion.

Please note that we have not begun to examine how these topics will be evaluated, tested, specified or implemented. The next logic step will be to refine the summary comments and begin discussions on technical aspects of each item. If you know anyone that has technical expertise in the areas of discussion, please invite them to participate.

## 89. 2. Compression

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 14 Aug 1995 21:29:24 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508150229.VAA22036@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

### 2. Compression

Definition: A system which reduces the number of bits required to transmit a given message.

Benefit: Reduced channel loading.

Discussion: By itself, compression has the potential to reduce channel loading by approximately 30-50%. When combined with multicast, the potential for reducing channel loading is a substantial.

Candidate Technologies: tbd

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## 90. 3. Client/Server

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 14 Aug 1995 21:29:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508150229.VAA22051@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

### 3. Client / Server Technology

Definition: A user program which provides a more elaborate interface than the existing BBS command line scheme. The client is also capable of monitoring a variety of channels and capturing bulletins of interest.

Benefit: A modern user interface with advanced searching and sorting algorithms. Potential for reduced channel loading.

Discussion: A common specification for a BBS client/server interface will allow programmers to support a variety of platforms and develop sophisticated graphical user interfaces (GUIs).

If the Client is capable of monitoring various frequencies, it may be able to capture bulletins as they are forwarded between BBS as well as when they are read by other users. For people who read a large number of bulletins, this would be nearly the equivalent of having a personal full service BBS.

Candidate Technologies: tbd

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## 91. [BBSSIG:1608] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 15 Aug 1995 08:02:44 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508151302.IAA28980@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

I'm wondering if the cart isn't being placed in front of the mule here. We've got a mass of traffic being moved on the network. There has been little or no attempt to characterize this traffic. No one appears concerned whether or not a significant percentage of it may constitute nothing more than channel QRM.

It may be that the majority of the traffic does serve some useful purpose. It may also turn out that users (as a group) aren't interested in 90 percent of the bulletin content. However, until user surveys are performed, we will never know.



I don't oppose new technology to handle greater bulletin growth as long as the result is for the good of the amateur service. But too often, there's a sense that a high monthly traffic count is analogous to the body count of the Vietnam era. The emphasis then was on technology to increase the kill ratio with little regard for the consequences.

Technology has its price and Joe User is going to be asked to lay out more bucks for better equipment, faster computers, etc., in order to use the technology. This being the case, than a more solid foundation can be laid if realistic statistics on user preferences and projected traffic growth can be quoted.

73 de Jack

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## 92. [BBSSIG:1610] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 15 Aug 1995 17:49:33 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508152249.RAA03355@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: willi\_r@mail.uwlax.edu  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

Jack Taylor has pointed out:

>I'm wondering if the cart isn't being placed in front of the mule here.  
>We've got a mass of traffic being moved on the network. There has been  
>little or no attempt to characterize this traffic. No one appears concerned  
>whether or not a significant percentage of it may constitute nothing more  
>than channel QRM.  
>  
>It may be that the majority of the traffic does serve some useful purpose.  
>It may also turn out that users (as a group) aren't interested in 90 percent  
>of the bulletin content.

The traffic is based on whatever someone somewhere determined was of value when it was entered into the network. There is almost no "traffic" on anything in amateur radio that has great value other than to the individuals sending and receiving. Not just for the few slivers of bandwidth for digital modes but for the bulk of the ham bands with a variety of modes. It is done for fun, and fun is in the eye of the beholder. Unless you could be sure that no one ever cares about the 90%, it would be difficult to somehow know which 90% you want to censor.

>Technology has its price and Joe User is going to be asked to lay out more  
>bucks for better equipment, faster computers, etc., in order to use the  
>technology. This being the case, than a more solid foundation can be laid  
>if realistic statistics on user preferences and projected traffic growth can  
>be quoted.

Our experience in our "rural" area is that 95% (my recent informal survey of actually talking with active packet users) are not willing to upgrade at this time for anything faster than 1k2. However, a fair number have had fairly reasonable computing power at their disposal for a while (say a 486-33 with 4 meg ram and 100+ HD). In fact it appears from amateur radio sales (which are frighteningly low from info I received in the past week) that many hams are allocating resources toward computers and software instead of ham hardware. It would be an awesome station at my QTH if my \$14K + had gone toward ham radio rather than computers in the past decade:)

You know its a funny thing, but we have not been seeing any growth in packet radio in our area for several years. (Remove tongue caught in cheek area of mouth). I wonder if this is the case in other parts of the country?

Rick, KV9U

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## 93. [BBSSIG:1612] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 16 Aug 1995 10:03:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508161503.KAA09922@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

According to Jack Taylor...

>I'm wondering if the cart isn't being placed in front of the mule here.  
>We've got a mass of traffic being moved on the network. There has been  
>little or no attempt to characterize this traffic. No one appears concerned  
>whether or not a significant percentage of it may constitute nothing more  
>than channel QRM.

That's a personal judgement call. As soon as you find one person who'd  
judgement will be accepted by EVERY HAM, then we'll be in a good position to  
start making proclamations as to which messages are worthwhile and which are  
not.

Packet ops have become used to the present "open" system, and not many will  
be too enthusiastic about reducing their options no matter how it may be  
rationalized.

To my mind, the influx of @WW bulletins we have suffered since the Internet  
gates came online a few years back is the biggest problem. ( When they  
"crossed the pond" by way of HF, there were fewer, better ones. ) But then  
again, that's just a personal judgement call. I'm sure a lot of hams see it  
differently, and that's why I forward all of those @WW bulls I have no  
personal use for.

>It may be that the majority of the traffic does serve some useful purpose.  
>It may also turn out that users (as a group) aren't interested in 90 percent  
>of the bulletin content. However, until user surveys are performed, we will  
>never know.

User surveys done over the packet network are generally useless, unless you  
are wanting a small sample of very localized information. What is preferred,  
and how things are done tends to vary quite a bit from place to place. The  
larger the area you try to cover with your survey, the less meaningful the  
results will be, and the more uniformly unsatisfactory your conclusions will  
end up being to everyone.

( In theory, a massive effort could yield more accurate results, but here  
I'm speaking of the kind of surveys we are LIKELY to try doing, and the  
response level such a survey is LIKELY to get. )

Most "packet surveys" are misused in a rather cynical fashion to "prove"  
some point or another, and so are routinely ignored by most experienced  
packet ops.

>

>I don't oppose new technology to handle greater bulletin growth as long as  
>the result is for the good of the amateur service. But too often, there's a  
>sense that a high monthly traffic count is analogous to the body count of  
>the Vietnam era. The emphasis then was on technology to increase the kill  
>ratio with little regard for the consequences.  
>

I've noticed this too.. It's as if the number of messages moved, and how  
fast you did it has become more important than the hobby itself. We're not  
supposed to talk about that, though.

>Technology has its price and Joe User is going to be asked to lay out more  
>bucks for better equipment, faster computers, etc., in order to use the  
>technology. This being the case, then a more solid foundation can be laid  
>if realistic statistics on user preferences and projected traffic growth can  
>be quoted.

It's a good idea, except that I doubt we'll be able to come up with  
worthwhile stats to work with. Assuming we did somehow get good stats, who  
would then get to "interpret" them?

Probably the most accurate way to determine what the user's preferences are  
would be by looking at what today's packet bulletins are like. Look at ALL  
of them, under each individual T0: field..

To see what the preferences are next week, look at the bulletins again next  
week, and so on.

The point here is that in an open, unrestricted system such as we now enjoy,  
preferences change by the minute. It's very flexible, because of it's free,  
open nature.

The price we pay for this freedom is a certain amount of confusion at times,  
and the fact that the less restricted systems like packet radio also require  
more individual knowledge and responsibility from it's users.

You can make the system idiot-proof of course, but then only an idiot would  
want to use it.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

If a man speaks of his honour, make him pay cash.

---

#### 94. [BBSSIG:1613] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 16 Aug 1995 10:04:45 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508161504.KAA09934@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

KV9U wrote:

>Our experience in our "rural" area is that 95% (my recent informal survey  
>of actually talking with active packet users) are not willing to upgrade  
>at this time for anything faster than 1k2.

I've discussed the possibility of a 9600 baud port here on the W6PW BBS with  
the users and out of a user base of 210, three said they were interested.  
I'm not going to spend the bucks for a new radio and TNC  
with that level of interest, so it looks like we'll be chugging along  
at 1200 here for a while.

>However, a fair number have had fairly reasonable computing power at >their  
disposal for a while (say a 486-33 with 4 meg ram and 100+ HD).

I would agree with that. The days of the dumb terminals and Commodores  
are history. Most have a PC or a Mac now, and many are very well  
equipped...486DX2-66 or better.

>You know its a funny thing, but we have not been seeing any growth in  
>packet radio in our area for several years. (Remove tongue caught in >cheek  
area of mouth). I wonder if this is the case in other parts of  
>the country?

Here in San Francisco I'm seeing new users all the time, but most are  
new hams with KE6xxx calls. The total number of users has stayed about the  
same though. As the new users check in, many of the "old timers" disappear.  
There are lots of TNCs out there that aren't being used!

Larry, WB9LOZ  
Packet: WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
E-mail: lkenney@slip.net

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#### 95. [BBSSIG:1617] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 17 Aug 1995 18:33:26 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508172333.SAA20969@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

At 09:54 AM 8/17/95 -0500, Larry Kenney wrote:  
>KV9U wrote:

>

>>Our experience in our "rural" area is that 95% (my recent informal survey  
>>of actually talking with active packet users) are not willing to upgrade  
>>at this time for anything faster than 1k2.

>

>I've discussed the possibility of a 9600 baud port here on the W6PW BBS with  
>the users and out of a user base of 210, three said they were interested.  
>I'm not going to spend the bucks for a new radio and TNC  
>with that level of interest, so it looks like we'll be chugging along  
>at 1200 here for a while.

One of the locals thought he had a commitment from several to establish a  
9k6 frequency. He obtained coordination approval, purchased about \$700  
worth of equipment, and nothing...It's now a year later and still nothing.

>>However, a fair number have had fairly reasonable computing power at >their  
>disposal for a while (say a 486-33 with 4 meg ram and 100+ HD).

>

>I would agree with that. The days of the dumb terminals and Commodores

>are history. Most have a PC or a Mac now, and many are very well  
>equipped...486DX2-66 or better.  
>  
>>You know its a funny thing, but we have not been seeing any growth in  
>>packet radio in our area for several years. (Remove tongue caught in >cheek  
>area of mouth). I wonder if this is the case in other parts of  
>>the country?  
>  
>Here in San Francisco I'm seeing new users all the time, but most are  
>new hams with KE6xxx calls. The total number of users has stayed about the  
>same though. As the new users check in, many of the "old timers" disappear.

This sounds typical here as well. With approximately 350 members in the local radio club, at the MOST, only a dozen occasionally on packet. People get excited, get on packet, don't like what they see and go away. I've been tracking attendance on the local BBS for years.

With FBB you can do a "JA" or a "JB" to see who has checked in and how long they were on the board. Before that, the board was CBBS and had a "Messages Read" column to show how many times a message was read. Over the years, the number of messages read was constantly diminishing. We started out with approximately 60% being read and was down to 10% at the time the BBS went with FBB. Three years with FBB and lately typically only 10-12 callsigns during the previous 24 hours on the board, including the forwarding stations. Today when I looked, this amount included 2 or 3 that came in from out-of-area.

You can tell by how long they've been on the board whether they had time to list any bulletins or not. Today, one callsign spent a little over 30 minutes. He's probably new to packet. The rest of the users spent anywhere from a few seconds to 5 or 6 minutes, obviously checking and/or responding to personal mail. This is a typical day here.

Our BBS is supported by the local radio club. Nearly every month the club newsletter has positive articles about packet. The club as a group, supports packet and has agreed to fund network upgrades. NJ7P has a nice performing internet gateway thats accessable. Why the low interest in packet? Are we typical?

One complaint is the BBS takes time, too much of it as far as listing bulletins goes. The knowledgeable users do not want to risk doing an "L" since they know from experience, 300 or more bulletin listings will be forthcoming. Yes, there are commands to be more particular, but apparently the human aspect of this scares them off from using this technique.

Another factor is with the low rates for On-line services such as Compuserve, a steady shift is going in that direction. We also have a relatively inexpensive internet provider available locally. Some of the guys have signed up for this and have installed part-time internet to ham radio gateways.

The question is, and it's an old question, "once they have seen the city, how do you get them back on the farm?"

One solution, and it may only be a partial solution, is to dump the "serial" PBBS software and convert over to Xnos. In case you haven't looked lately, Xnos has the capability to load bulletins into pockets called "areas". These areas can be designated by bulletin subject matter. For instance, areas could be set up for: LOCAL, SALE, WANTED, AMSAT, KEPS, ARRL, NTS, DEBATE, etc., anything you want.

When a user checks into Xnos, he's informed if new mail has come into which areas since his last check in. If one is only interested in two or three areas, all they have to do to check it out is command "A <areaname>" and do a listing. This procedure is fairly painless and isn't apt to overwhelm a user unless he's either been away for awhile, or the area he's interested in is quite active.

Locally we have not gone to Xnos yet, but it's certainly under consideration. The later versions appear to be very stable and pretty much compatible with the forwarding procedures of popular PBBS softwares. JNOS and TNOS both have versions that work under DOS and Linux. TNOS will now work with certain flavours of Unix. I understand the latest version of TNOS has FBB style stats, including a number relating to user preferences, including bulletin subject matter.

Xnos with a Linux O/S could be the basis of a very stable PBBS, netrom node switch, packet DX Cluster, IP router, international conference bridge, up to-date FCC callbook, and internet gateway, rolled up in a single 386-40 or

better machine. All-in-all, Xnos is here, it's available and there's probably one in a neighborhood near you.

Personally I NEVER though I'd see the day I'd be "selling" Xnos! But when you investigate the latest developments, Xnos looks VERY capable.

73 de Jack

>There are lots of TNCs out there that aren't being used!  
>  
>Larry, WB9LOZ  
>Packet: WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
>E-mail: lkenney@slip.net

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## 96. [BBSSIG:1619] Is BBSSIG dead, or just slow? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 18 Aug 1995 17:47:05 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508182247.RAA29818@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Is BBSSIG dead, or just slow?

The message title sez it all.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Budget the luxuries first.

---

## 97. [BBSSIG:1621] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 20 Aug 1995 09:45:15 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508201445.JAA11673@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: wharrell@cris.com  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

<---- Begin Included Message <---->  
Date: Thu, 17 Aug 1995 18:48:56 -0500  
From: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Return-Path: <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1618] Re: discussion summary  
To: bbssig@tapr.org

One complaint is the BBS takes time, too much of it as far as listing bulletins goes. The knowledgeable users do not want to risk doing an "L" since they know from experience, 300 or more bulletin listings will be forthcoming. Yes, there are commands to be more particular, but apparently the human aspect of this scares them off from using this technique.

<---- End Included Message <---->  
I thought I would send a brief message in response to the above comment, which was only part of a message in the sig. I cut the rest as I didn't wish to have all  
resent, and this is a comment to help with the bulletin listing problems on the sysops  
FBB System..

I have a server operating on my FBB system here called Scanbull, which the users have  
full control of, and can add scan words to a list of words they are interested in. Each  
night the bbs makes a message to the user, with a listing of message numbers and subject,  
just as they get when doing a L command, but the listing only contains messages they are  
interested in. The server looks at subject line and the text. Users can add or delete  
words as they wish at the bbs prompt. They can also look at a list of words they have.

If interested in the server software, drop me a message and I'll look up the ftp site where you can download the software. Check <http://www.cris.com/~wharrell> for more info on the system and servers here in South Georgia.

User access here is sporadic, being busy some days and not much use other days.

73 from WD4LYV WAYNE  
WHARRELL@CRIS.COM

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## 98. [BBSSIG:1623] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 20 Aug 1995 22:18:12 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508210318.WAA13902@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

>I have a server operating on my FBB system here called Scanbull, which the  
>users have  
>full control of, and can add scan words to a list of words they are interested  
>in. Each  
>night the bbs makes a message to the user, with a listing of message numbers  
>and subject,  
>just as they get when doing a L command, but the listing only contains  
>messages they are  
>interested in. The server looks at subject line and the text. Users can add or  
>delete  
>words as they wish at the bbs prompt. They can also look at a list of words  
>they have.  
>  
>If interested in the server software...

This is an interesting server. I must have been asleep when notice came out about it. I've seen many many servers for FBB, but have never heard of this one before. Please let us in on its whereabouts and author.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

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## 99. [BBSSIG:1624] ROUTES packet header utility (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 20 Aug 1995 22:21:29 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508210321.WAA13925@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: 7134@mgs.com (Orrin Winton WN1Z)  
Subject: ROUTES packet header utility

On 5 August, mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie)  
posted the following response to my posting:

>Subj: [BBSSIG:1531] packet routing header utility program  
>From: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
> To:  
>Sent: Sat, 5 Aug 1995 10:11:19 -0500  
>  
>>A program i've written in C and compiled, a utility i call  
>>ROUTES, may be of interest to packet bbs sysops and others so  
>>i am posting this announcement on BBSSIG and TAPR-BB lists.  
>>  
>>ROUTES.EXE: A self-extracting archive. For DOS; there is one  
>>version for a 50-line screen and one for the 25-line screen.  
>>The utility creates a searchable listing, using packet  
>>bulletins you have downloaded off your local ham radio BBS  
>>using the 'rh' command (rather than 'r') to get the long-header  
>>info. ...

(snip) as Larry wb9loz pointed out, the corresponding FBB

```

command is 'v'

>>... The listing will tell you who
>>forwards to whom, who receives from whom. Will also tell you
>>how many days a message stayed on a BBS en route. You can then
>>search the listing with the search program provided, and it
>>will produce a file based on a search callsign you provide.
>
>Remember, this will only work on P/T mail, since many people are
>using header strippers to cut volume by 60% or so.
>
>Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N
>mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us
>AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

```

Could someone fill me in on what results when a "header stripper" is employed? Do the lines beginning with 'R:' simply get stripped off, and/or is there still some forwarding-chain info preserved? Also, what is 'P/T' short for?

All the bulletins i read at K6LY.#CENCA.CA here have at least SOME lines of long-header info intact. My prog accumulates info on PAIRS of BBSs, not entire chains, so ANY amount of header info is useful.

My program will pull out selected info from all lines beginning with 'R:'. In addition to the portion of my message excerpted by Gary above, ... ROUTES will create a comma-delimited file of all long-header info (not just a user-selected search-callsign): BBS-a, date [arr. at BBS-a], days-held [at BBS-a], BBS-b. Import into dBase or Paradox, sort by BBS-a, BBS-b, and date, and you get a listing in ascending date order with any delays in whole days. The time-of-day info on routing headers has too many errors and inconsistencies to be used very well in a utility of this sort. Sometimes even the year is off: I've seen, in the past year, several instances of e.g. 800709 as a date, meaning somebody's XT doesn't have a clock! But my program will catch errors like that, kick you out of the program, and give hints on where to go and repair the error in the text file.

If anyone wants to play around with ROUTES, i just got a good uuencode program & can e-mail it to people. No ftp site as yet. Send me e-mail (wnlz@amsat.org) if you want it uuencoded. I send in 49K chunks; it comes to 4 or 5 chunks.

Orrin  
7134@mgs.com  
wnlz@amsat.org  
wnlz@k6ly.#cenca.ca.usa.noam

-----

Me gusta tambien el intercambio de mensajes en espanol, frances, portugues, y esperanto.

Mi shatas intershanghi mesaghojn hispane, france, portugale, kaj esperante.

Anyone realize the ARRL officially endorsed (in the 1920s) the use of the Esperanto language as an international communications medium for amateurs? They musta had high hopes in those days. Me, i can hardly wait for my Universal Translator widget to hang on a chain around my neck. If i live that long. :-) Meanwhile i'd rather play Esperanto than Doom, Mah Jong, and Windoze Poker.

-----

## 100. [BBSSIG:1627] Re: ROUTES packet header utility (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 08:11:20 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@taapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508211311.IAA18108@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: ROUTES packet header utility

>>Remember, this will only work on P/T mail, since many people are  
>>using header strippers to cut volume by 60% or so.  
>>  
>>Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
>>mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
>>AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM  
>  
>  
>Could someone fill me in on what results when a "header stripper"  
>is employed? Do the lines beginning with 'R:' simply get stripped  
>off, and/or is there still some forwarding-chain info preserved?  
>Also, what is 'P/T' short for?

The strippers I have seen, totally remove all R: lines except the  
originating BBS and the one that forwards it to me. Therefore, when it  
leaves this station, it has three R: lines; the originator, the one I got it  
from, and mine. P/T is Private (station to station) mail, and nTs (station  
to third party, i.e. non-ham). NO info on removed headers is retained.  
Some complain about this, but it really is a space/time saver. P/T traffic  
retains all path headers to help find delays. Generally, tracking info on  
bulletins is a so-what deal (yes, that's an opinion).

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 101. [BBSSIG:1629] Re: ROUTES packet header utility (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 20:28:07 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220128.UAA20917@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: gwyn@paccomm.com (Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL)  
Subject: Re: ROUTES packet header utility

The PacComm Personal Message System does a similar header compaction to  
save memory capacity. If I remember, it keeps the first and last and  
discards the in-between. It is defeatable if someone really wants all  
that path information.

-- Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL -- gwyn@paccomm.com -- W1BEL@amsat.org --

+(813) 874-2980 Fax:+(813) 872-8696 BBS: +(813) 874-3078 (V.34)

PacComm Packet Radio Systems, Inc, 4413 N. Hesperides St, Tampa, FL 33614-7618

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## 102. [BBSSIG:1630] Re: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 20:30:10 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220130.UAA20933@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arri.org>  
Subject: Re: Listing PBBS bulletins

> One complaint is the PBBS takes time, too much of it as far as listing  
> bulletins goes. The knowledgeable users do not want to risk doing an "L"  
> because they know from experience, 300 or more bulletin listings will be  
> forthcoming. Yes, there are commands to be more particular, but  
apparently  
> the human aspect of this scares them off from using this technique.  
  
> I thought I would send a brief message in response to the above comment,  
which  
> was only part of a message in the sig. I cut the rest as I didn't wish to  
have  
> all resent, and this is a comment to help with the bulletin listing  
problems on  
> the SysOp's FBB System..  
>  
> I have a server operating on my FBB system here called Scanbull, which  
the



> users have full control of, and can add scan words to a list of words they are  
> interested in. Each night the PBBS makes a message to the user, with a listing  
> of message numbers and subject, just as they get when doing a L command,  
> but the listing only contains messages they are interested in. The server looks  
> at subject line and the text. Users can add or delete words as they wish at the  
> PBBS prompt. They can also look at a list of words they have.  
>  
> 73 from WD4LYV WAYNE  
> WHARRELL@CRIS.COM

Then there's the opposite: Instead of picking what you want to read in advance, what if you don't KNOW what you might want to read, but you do know what you DON'T want to read? For example, I'd like to be able to log onto our friendly neighborhood AX.25 PBBS (MSYS) and type "L" (or "L something") and see all the bulletins EXCEPT anything going to @USBBS or @WW (those are generally a waste). Any way to set up PBBS software to act as a filter that can be set just to show users everything BUT what they may want kept in a certain "preference list"?

--73 de BB

---

Brian Battles, WS10      Features Editor, QST Magazine  
ARRL HQ, Newington, CT USA  
Tel 203-594-0222 or 203-203-594-0200, fax 203-594-0259  
e-mail bbattles@arrl.org

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### 103. [BBSSIG:1631] Re: BBSSIG digest 242 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 20:31:22 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220131.UAA20942@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: dme@ingersoll.com (Dave Ewaldz N9HKM)  
Subject: Re: BBSSIG digest 242

Disclaimer: the following is not meant to slam other pbbs programs out there, nor to proclaim that NOS and Linux is the greatest since sliced bread, and everyone should be running it, just giving my opinion and experiences. ;-) To each his own!

>These areas can be designated by bulletin subject matter. For instance,  
>areas could be set up for: LOCAL, SALE, WANTED, AMSAT, KEPS, ARRL, NTS.  
>DEBATE, etc., anything you want.

The prime reason I changed my pbbs over from MSYS to JNOS a few years ago. Before the transition, I tried just about everything available, and settled on xNOS.

>When a user checks into Xnos, he's informed if new mail has come into which  
>areas since his last check in. If one is only interested in two or three  
>areas, all they have to do to check it out is command "A <areaname>" and do  
>a listing.

I have had many comments from packet users in the Chicago area that use my system, that without this single feature, they probably would never check into a pbbs and read mail. Many of these users have bbs's (msys, fbb, etc) closer to them, but choose to login over the network to JNOS here because it "saves them time". Yes, I realize that other programs have message catagory listing capabilities to allow sifting thru messages, but my users indicate the separate area method easier to use.

Another thing I do the users like is this: XNOS allows the aliasing of one message area to another. We have quite an active skywarn group here locally, so I have the system setup here to plop all of the races/skywarn/esda bulletins not only in public areas, but in also each local skywarn users personal message area also. They dont even have to search for the messages that are of prime interest to them.

What is the result of all of this? People actually are reading the stuff that interests them!

>Locally we have not gone to Xnos yet, but it's certainly under

>consideration. The later versions appear to be very stable and pretty much  
>compatible with the forwarding procedures of popular PBBS softwares.

That is my personal experience with the latest J/TNOS versions here. Very  
stable,  
and runs like a top. Once you get the thing configured properly :-)  
Not the easiest to setup, but surely not the hardest- I tried most of them.

J/Tnos are very capable of running as a full service ax25 style pbbs. Mine  
pretty much just sits there and runs with maybe once a week maintenance. The  
sysop interface is not as pretty as some of the others out there, but it is  
functional and works for me.

As a bonus, because J/Tnos support tcpip as well as ax25, the system has allowed  
the locals to experiment with tcpip after they have mastered ax25  
connections. As a result, the interest level has remained up, and people  
keep participating. Also,  
the Chicago network is largely based on PacketTen nodes, so an XNOS system  
blends in well.

>JNOS and TNOS both have versions that work under DOS and Linux. TNOS will now  
>work with certain flavours of Unix. I understand the latest version of TNOS  
>has FBB style stats, including a number relating to user preferences,  
>including bulletin subject matter.

I have Tnos/Linux running as my secondary beta system, and will be my  
primary system when I am happy with my setup and comfortable enough with Linux.

>Xnos with a Linux O/S could be the basis of a very stable PBBS, netrom node  
>switch, packet DX Cluster, IP router, international conference bridge, up  
>to-date FCC callbook, and internet gateway, rolled up in a single 386-40 or  
>better machine. All-in-all, Xnos is here, it's available and there's  
>probably one in a neighborhood near you.

Yes, the availability of things like Tnos, Linux, etc. should allow a sysop  
to put together the proverbial killer pbbs system, and the openness of Linux  
allows things like client/server interfaces to be experimented with and  
easily integrated. Probably not for everyone, not plug and play, not  
windows/OS2 etc., but this is a hobby and experimenting IS still allowed in  
this hobby right?

The fact that you can have a capable operating system, all of the  
development tools you would ever want, etc. etc, for the price of a 19.95  
CD-ROM sure appeals to this  
budget strapped ham! That is the prime reason Linux has exploded around the  
world. Ugly old Unix doesn't scare me though, I enjoy homebrewing hardware  
here, and recently also software. And oh, my workgroups here at work use  
WFW, NT and OpenVMS, so I experience the graphical stuff hourly. It's neat,  
but I cannot afford it at home :-)

>Personally I NEVER though I'd see the day I'd be "selling" Xnos! But when  
>you investigate the latest developments, Xnos looks VERY capable.

Not the 1st person saying this lately. My sentiments exactly.

What excites me for the future is the possibility of using the built-in  
Linux ax25/netrom/tcpip networking support, and adding various BBS interface  
and server modules to my personal taste as they become available. A modular  
system. With cheap (free) development tools such as GCC, I could even write  
my own servers (if my wife/kids would cooperate).

73 Dave N9HKM

--

Dave Ewaldz INGERSOLL MILLING MACHINE CO.  
N9HKM Rockford, Illinois, USA

Internet - dme@ingersoll.com  
Ma-Bell - (815)-987-6081  
Fax - (815)-987-6541  
ax25 mail - n9hkm@n9hkm.#ncil.il.usa.noam

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## 104. [BBSSIG:1632] Re: ROUTES packet head (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 20:31:40 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@taapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220131.UAA20950@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: SLSC65A@prodigy.com (MR RODNEY G FOWLER)  
Subject: Re: ROUTES packet head

Here is one way header stripping is done, not the way most people think of stripping, that is REMOVAL of the entire line, but making them shorter and containing ONLY that information for properly tracking mail and bulletins. This type of stripping is performed automatically by the PRMBS BBS system, infact, both PRMBS and MSYS only use the necessary information in their R:Header lines, you cannot add anything else like towns or BBS program preference.. hi Here is an example of one bulletin with the headers shortened.

73 de Rod

-----  
SB KEPS @ AMSAT < FB1RCI \$2015\_F6KED  
MIR Amsat day=229  
R:950821/1009 1031@K2ADJ.#SNJ.NJ.USA.NOAM \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/1000 343577@WT3V.NJ.USA.NOAM \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0933 45349@KC2PB.NJ.USA.NOAM  
R:950821/0914 32433@WB2COP.FN20WJ.NJ.USA.NA \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0959 8916@WA2JVM.NJ.USA.NA \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0840 21380@WA2SNA.FN21VA.NJ.USA.NA \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0832 38553@WA2AWG.FN31DK.#ENY.NY.USA.NA \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0617 8054@K1UOL.CT.USA.NA \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0010 37905@N4GAA.CT.USA.NA \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0450 35070@WB0TAX.#SHRV.LA.USA.NOAM \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0447 52817@HA3PG.HUN.EU \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0352 38972@PI8VNW.#ZH2.NLD.EU  
R:950821/0307 29174@PI8WFL.#NH1.NLD.EU \$:2015\_F6KED  
R:950821/0243 19236@PI8JYL.#FRL.NLD.EU  
R:950821/0238 8908@PI8AWT.#GRO.NLD.EU  
R:950821/0425 42@DB0NDR.#NDS.DEU.EU  
R:950821/0409 42@DK5SG.#BW.DEU.EU  
R:950821/0406 84703@N0MPI.#NECO.CO.USA  
R:950821/0355 33996@N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
R:950821/0202 6809@N6EEG.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
R:950821/0148 20062@KA6EYH.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
R:950820/1717 41060@N6IYA.#CENCA.CA.USA.NOAM  
R:950820/1544 4835@WA7SJJN.#WWA.WA.USA.NOAM  
R:950820/1630 6014@N7QDN.#PDX.OR.USA.NOAM  
R:950820/1555 49451@KB7CNN.#WWA.WA.USA.NOAM  
R:950820/1540 62048@WA7NTF.#TAC.#WWA.WA.USA.NOAM  
R:950820/1636 54067@G1DIL.GB7BBS.#28.GBR.EU  
R:950819/1517 60463@F6FBB.FMLR.FRA.EU  
R:950819/1513 45869@F6DSP.FMLR.FRA.EU  
R:950819/1502 7470@F1RVP.FMLR.FRA.EU  
R:950818/1840 58595@F5KPO.FPCA.FRA.EU  
R:950818/1532 2015@F6KED.FPCA.FRA.EU  
snip - snip

---

## 105. [BBSSIG:1633] FBB SERVER SCANB131 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 20:32:13 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220132.UAA20958@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: wharrell@cris.com  
Subject: FBB SERVER SCANB131

After several replys to my message about the scanbull server used on the system here, I thought I would place the user help file for sysops to read, who haven't heard of this server written by Chris McMahon G6FCI.

Enclosed is the text file. The filename is SCANB131.ZIP and if I'm successful, can be downloaded from the tapr bbssig upload directory... I look forward to hearing from other bbs sysops with a list of servers you have collected. I am working on a list of those I have.

FROM THE ZIP FILE SCANB131.ZIP

SCANBULL - Message Scanning Server

~~~~~  
Introduction

~~~~~  
How often have you listed the last 24 hours worth (or more) of bulletins

(hundreds of them!) and seen 5k bulletins with such illuminating subject lines as 'Disks' or 'New software'. You sit there and toss a mental coin to decide whether you think the bulletin will be of any interest. What's the betting that if you read it, the contents are a million miles away from anything of interest to you. If you don't read it a friend says a few days later 'did you see that excellent bulletin from G9XYZ' and when you go looking for it, the bulletin has gone. Well help is now at hand!

The SCANBULL server for the F6FBB BBS software can be used by users of the BBS to locate bulletins which contain at least one of a list of keywords chosen by the user. The keyword list is callsign specific and is stored in a database on the BBS. The user has full facilities to maintain the list of keywords.

At a fixed time each day (the BBS maintenance session...usually at 04:00), the SCANBULL server examines all bulletins which have arrived since the previous run for keywords selected by users. The TO and SUBJECT fields and the entire message text (excluding forwarding headers) are checked for keywords. A list of bulletins matching the keywords is built for each user of the server and the list is then sent as a message to the user concerned. If the user has PMS forwarding set up then the message will be forwarded to them.

Users with PMS's that accept forwarding from the BBS can then send a request to a second part of the server which allows copies of the bulletins to be forwarded to them. The bulletin copies can either be in 'user' format (no forwarding headers included) which is suitable for TNC type PMS's, or 'BBS' format (includes forwarding headers) for stations running full BBS software. The 'BBS' format allows the user to send replies direct to the bulletin originator using the SR or similar command.

#### Instructions for use

The SCANBULL server comprises of various parts. REQSCN and REQBUL are two servers which can be used remotely, ie messages from a PMS can be sent to them.

SCANADD, SCANDEL and SCANLIS are programs which can be invoked from the BBS prompt to carry out similar actions to the REQSCN server.

#### REQSCN server

REQSCN is used to update the database which holds the list of keywords chosen by the user. The database can hold up to 64 keywords per user (this limit has been imposed to keep the bulletin scan times to a reasonable length of time). Keywords are limited to 16 or less characters. If you try to add a keyword of more than 16 characters, only the first 16 chars will be stored. This isn't actually too much of a problem...I can't think of many words that aren't unique in the first 16 characters!

Be careful how you specify keywords. Common words like 'THE', 'AN', etc will be matched by virtually all bulletins, so aren't much use. You can specify keywords to match partial words, so DX will match DXcluster and DXCC, you can use this to your benefit, but watch out for side effects of getting bulletins listed that you didn't expect! Punctuation, spaces and line breaks within a word (it has been known!!) WILL confuse the scanner. So IBM won't find I.B.M. or I B M in a bulletin. I will try to improve on this in future versions.

REQSCN is used to modify the keywords in your list by addressing a message to the server in the following way...

```
~~~~~
SP REQSCN @ GB7xyz
REQUEST      <----Subject - put anything here

A word1 word2 word3 <----Adds word1/2/3 to the SCAN list
D word2        <----Deletes word2 from the list
?              <----Shows words in SCAN list
/EX or CTRL-Z
~~~~~
```

The following command letters are available (as shown above) :

A - Adds keyword(s) to the database. Any number of keywords can be added (up to 64) by a single 'A' command. Place the keywords to be added on the

same  
line as the 'A' command, eg 'A PC IBM COMPUTER' adds the words 'PC',  
'IBM',  
'COMPUTER' to your keyword list.

D - Deletes keyword(s) from the database. Any number of keywords can be  
deleted (up to 64) by a single 'D' command. Place the keywords to be  
deleted on the same line as the 'D' command, eg 'D COMPUTER' deleted the  
keyword 'COMPUTER' from your keyword list.

? - Displays a list of all your keywords from the database. This is useful to  
check that you have the correct set of keywords in the list.

Any number of keywords can be added or deleted (up to 64) by a single 'A' or  
'D' command. I'd suggest that you keep the lines to less than 80 characters  
though!

The REQSCN server will send you a reply detailing the actions that it has  
taken. If you have used the '?' command, the reply will contain the list of  
keywords you requested.

#### SCANADD/SCANDEL/SCANLIS programs

~~~~~

These two programs can be run whilst you are logged in to the BBS that is  
running the SCANBULL server, ie they are like BBS commands and can be run from  
the BBS prompt. SCANADD is used to add keywords to your personal list.

SCANDEL  
is used to delete words from your keyword list. SCANLIS lists your keywords.  
The commands are used in the following way:

SCANADD word1 word2 word3

This adds words word1/word2/word3 to your keyword list.

SCANDEL word1

This deletes the word word1 from your keyword list.

SCANLIS

This lists all the keywords stored in your keyword list. No extra parameters  
are required on the command line.

These programs are governed by the same rules as the REQSCN server, ie 64  
words  
maximum in your list, 16 chars per keyword and no more than 80 character  
lines.

On versions of the F6FBB software prior to v5.14e you will have to prefix the  
SCANADD/SCANDEL/SCANLIS commands with 'PG', eg

PG SCANADD word1 word2 word2

#### REQBUL server

~~~~~

REQBUL is used to request copies of selected bulletins to be sent to your PMS.  
When the scanning program has run and sent you a list of the bulletins  
containing your keywords, you can use REQBUL to obtain copies of the  
bulletins.

This is really only of use if the BBS forwards to your PMS. Users of TNC  
based

PMS's will need to be careful about the size and number of bulletins  
requested,  
otherwise you are likely to overflow the memory in your TNC!

To request a copy of a bulletin using REQBUL, send a message to the server in  
the following way...

~~~~~  
SP REQBUL @ GB7xyz  
REQUEST <----Subject - put anything here  
  
R mmmm, nnnnn <----Read messages mmmm, nnnnn  
V xxxxx, yyyy <----Verbose read messages xxxxx, yyyy  
/EX or CTRL-Z

~~~~~  
The following command letters are available, as shown above:

R - Sends a copy of the message in 'user' format. This is basically the same as you'd see if you used the 'R' command on the BBS.

V - Sends a copy of the message in 'BBS' format. This is basically the same as

you'd see if you used the 'V' command on the BBS. This allows suitable PMS software to automatically re-address replies to the message to the correct BBS (using the forwarding headers). Only use the 'V' command if you run proper BBS type software as a PMS.

Any number of bulletins can be requested by a single 'R' or 'V' command. I'd suggest that you keep the lines to less than 80 characters though! The commas between the message numbers are optional, you must include a space if you don't use commas though.

#### ~~~~~ Miscellaneous topics

Remember that the scanning program only scans bulletins which have arrived since it was last run. The scanner will normally run once per day, so messages arriving during the previous 24 hours will normally be found in your list. This means that if you add 'IBM' to your list, the scanning program will NOT find messages containing IBM that arrived (normally) more than 24 hours ago.

Finally, please be aware that this software only works for your local BBS. You CANNOT request database updates or request copies of bulletins from remote BBSs. Any replies will be sent to you on the BBS running the server. This is a deliberate attempt to keep the amount of network congestion caused by use of this server to a minimum. As all bulletins can usually be found on all BBSs, then it seems pointless getting one BBS to send copies of bulletins to another BBS that already has them.

(c) Copyright 1993 - Chris McMahon, G6FCI @ GB7FCI

=====

This is a great server that will save users time on the bbs you operate..

73 Wayne WD4LYV

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## 106. [BBSSIG:1634] Where to get YAPP protocol description ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 20:32:29 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220132.UAA20966@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: fljkj@planete.net (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Subject: Where to get YAPP protocol description ?

Hi,

The title says it all...  
Do you know any FTP or WWW site ?

Thanks !

>From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ -- PGP Email welcome  
> F1JKJ@planete.net < Public Key on mail servers  
Fidonet 2:323/27.1  
CompuServe ID 100407,436

---

## 107. "LOCAL" command

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 20:38:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220138.UAA20996@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

In the AA4RE BBS there is a scheme to create your own command. It is really a macro that compares the user command to a short string and then executes the more complex command.

I defined the command "LOCAL" to list all bltns that are NOT: WW, US\*, AMSAT and a few other less well known flood designators.

The effect is that the user sees bltns @:  
IOWA, MIDUSA and null.

At user request, I also have commands for:  
NOSALE - lists that doesn't show some of the big topics like > SALE.  
SALE0 - lists >SALE and from callsigns with 0.

This isn't rocket science, but users prefer a short command rather than doing explicit searches.

Barry

---

### 108. [BBSSIG:1642] Re: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 21:10:21 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220210.VAA21411@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>  
Subject: Re: Listing PBBS bulletins

Interestingly, rebbs software allows all sorts of searches on all sorts of fields. I know that msys doesn't other than the standard lookups. I haven't had any experience with fbb or hank's software, so I can't speak to that.

73, Ed

---

### 109. [BBSSIG:1643] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 22:14:20 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220314.WAA22721@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: SLSC65A@prodigy.com (MR RODNEY G FOWLER)  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

Re:Bulletin Listing

There has been much discussion on Bulletin Listing that I would like to tell you about a feature in PRMBBS that is called EXCLUDE/INCLUDE whereas a USER can set up a file in the BBS that will contain those catagories of bulletins that he wants or doesn't want.. So, when he "L 0", it will ONLY list out those bulletins he wants or doesn't want depending on how his file is set up.. He can also use the "LL 20" if he is only interested in the Last 20 of those he wants..

>From what I have been reading here in BBSSIG, there are several BBS programs out there in PacketLand that have all the features that you want right now, but there is only ONE problem, all the features are not in any one BBS Program, shucks, even Hanks Pride and Joy would be One Megabyte big and almost impossible to run if it had everything in it.. hi...

73 de Rod

---

### 110. [BBSSIG:1645] Re: Where to get YAPP protocol description ? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 21 Aug 1995 22:14:57 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508220314.WAA22730@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@primenet.com>  
Subject: Re: Where to get YAPP protocol description ?

On Mon, 21 Aug 1995, Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ wrote:

> Hi,





too complicated and confusing. For others, too slow and frustrating compared to what can be done on the land-line circuits.

With better network design and implementation (it's not the fault of the 1200 baud hardware that we have 3 cps circuits...), better BBS (server) and user (client) software and a little better overall organization, we can build a system that will actually be "desirable" to use. Look out World Wide Web.

This is really a pretty exciting time - with the new software design tools and the lack of hardware problems faced by the "pioneers" a couple years ago we should be able to come up with some great stuff.

73 - Bill

Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

---

### 113. [BBSSIG:1653] Re: Listing PBBS Bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 23 Aug 1995 08:05:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508231305.IAA15633@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jwt@shrine.cyber.ad.jp (Jim Tittsler)  
Subject: Re: Listing PBBS Bulletins

In article <199508221600.LAA22299@sys1.tapr.org>, you wrote:  
> and see all the bulletins EXCEPT anything going to @USBBS or @WW (those are  
> generally a waste). Any way to set up PBBS software to act as a filter that  
> can be set just to show users everything BUT what they may want kept in a  
> certain "preference list"?

The N0ARY BBS software supports both INCLUDE lists (that add specific topics to your 'lm' list) and EXCLUDE lists (that prevent specified topics from showing up in the 'l' list).

---

### 114. [BBSSIG:1654] Re: ROUTES packet head (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 23 Aug 1995 08:06:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508231306.IAA15643@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: ROUTES packet head

>Here is one way header stripping is done, not the way most people think of  
>stripping, that is REMOVAL of the entire line, but making them shorter and  
>containing ONLY that information for properly tracking mail and bulletins.  
>This type of stripping is performed automatically by the PRMBS BBS system,  
>infact, both PRMBS and MSYS only use the necessary information in their  
>R:Header lines, you cannot add anything else like towns or BBS program  
>preference.. hi Here is an example of one bulletin with the headers shortened.  
>  
>73 de Rod  
>- - - - -  
>  
>SB KEPS @ AMSAT < FB1RCI \$2015\_F6KED  
>MIR Amsat day=229  
[snip]

Instead of stripping the just the headers, this bulletin should have been sent to the bit-bucket. It's a terrible abuse of the AMSAT distribution. After all, the Keps sent by ARRL & AMSAT on a regular basis must certainly be accurate enough for Amateur use. (plus or minus a few seconds)  
Too bad not enough Sysops bother to setup their Reject.Sys to keep out such stuff.  
- velaic

---

### 115. 2 kinds of problems

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 23 Aug 1995 08:25:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508231325.IAA15726@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

It looks to me like there are two broad categories of problems. The first is related to user interface with the BBS and bulletin content (or lack thereof). More sophisticated users want to be selective in the LIST and READ operations. The areas to address are the BBS program, with more complexity and shifting the responsibility to a client program.

The second area of discussion is somewhat less well defined. If I may summarize, the problem is with the network and a related issue that hams may not be particularly well suited to running one.

```
// at this point I pause and seriously contemplate stopping
// well, I got over it!
```

I'll confine my remarks to network issues only:

The objective of sysops in most networks is conformity with specifications and a unity of purpose. IMHO, the sysops are generally concerned with local and user issues and less concerned/ignorant of network issues.

For example, what percentage of sysops in your area really understand the network traffic patterns? Peak forwarding times, conflicts with multiple fwds to a single BBS on a single frequency, bottle necks, bad nodes, etc.

My point is all this is that we have had good discussion on GUIs and user needs. I hope we can find a core team and continue to develop these thoughts into a good spec. However, we have had a number of good comments made about network issues and I hope they have struck a few nerves.

private note to BL: network=a bunch of stuff hooked together and maybe working.(:-)

Barry

---

## 116. [BBSSIG:1658] Re: ROUTES packet head (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 23 Aug 1995 19:23:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508240023.TAA2252@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: ROUTES packet head

```
>>SB KEPS @ AMSAT < FB1RCI $2015_F6KED
>>MIR Amsat day=229
>[snip]
>
>Instead of stripping the just the headers, this bulletin should have been
>sent to the
>bit-bucket. It's a terrible abuse of the AMSAT distribution. After all, the
>Keps sent
>by ARRL & AMSAT on a regular basis must certainly be accurate enough
>for Amateur use. (plus or minus a few seconds)
>Too bad not enough Sysops bother to setup their Reject.Sys to keep out such
>stuff.
>- velaic
```

Hmm...I didn't make that comment, for fear that practice had been stopped in most locations. However, any @AMSAT bull that comes in here is automatically held if it doesn't have an AMSAT bid on it, as agreed to several years ago. If it's not a legit AMSAT bull, it gets killed on the spot. Same goes for ARRL stuff. Improperly bidded ones get dumped, even if the content is correct. The correct one will be around eventually, if not already.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 117. [BBSSIG:1660] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 23 Aug 1995 19:25:50 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508240025.TAA2289@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

WARNING: LOG BORING SOAPBOX COMMENTARY. . .!

In reply to:

> According to Brian Battles...  
> > ...Instead of picking what you want to read in advance, what if  
> >you don't KNOW what you might want to read, but you do know  
> >what you DON'T want to read? For example, I'd like to be able to  
> >log onto our AX.25 PBBS (MSYS) and type "L" (or "L something")  
> >and see all the bulletins EXCEPT anything going to @USBBS or @WW  
> >(those are generally a waste)...  
  
> Admittedly, the @WW stuff and much of the @USBBS stuff is not  
> interesting, but you never really KNOW that ALL of it will be. I guess  
> if you REALLY don't want to see these bulls, the best route is to list  
> the bulletins @(Your state), then @ARRL, then @(AMSAT, etc)...  
>  
> 73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
> Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

And...

> Date: Wed, 23 Aug 1995 08:05:30 -0500 (CDT)  
> From: jwt@shrine.cyber.ad.jp (Jim Tittsler)  
> Subject: Re: Listing PBBS Bulletins

> The N0ARY PBBS software supports both INCLUDE lists (that  
> add specific topics to your 'lm' list) and EXCLUDE lists (that  
> prevent specified topics from showing up in the 'l' list).

I guess I still have something against hams routinely entering so much garbage that's addressed to (whatever)@USBBS or (whatever)@WW that I consciously refuse to read those, no matter what the subject (if there is one that makes any sense--I'm particularly impressed by such nonsense as CQ@WW Subj: CQ CQ WW!). IN MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL OPINION (NOT that of the place I work for!!!!--very obligatory disclaimer), I think the huge percentage of @USBBS and @WW postings are done by people who are untrained, ignorant or lazy. The second largest category are people who can't resist the "free" soapbox--under the faulty assumption that most packet BBS users will bother to read their ramblings. And a tiny fraction are genuine bulletins that announce facts of potential interest to all amateurs.

If I were a SysOp, I might set up my station to ignore all @USBBS and @WW stuff coming into or originating on my system. I'd prefer not to waste resources offering it to users, and I'd probably want to restrict outgoing @USBBS bulletins to a select few people who I knew personally and had been tutored in the practical ramifications of using that inefficient distribution.

I'd never want to "censor" anything for its content (if legal), so my log-on MOTD would notify all users that they aren't getting to see--or send--any @WW bulletins, nor @USBBS bulletins other than a few that have been reviewed by the station owner/SysOp.

If all SysOps chose to handle things this way, it would probably be like a free multi-baud upgrade, speeding up the network and each user's on-line session.

Cheesh! The only reason most of our prolific @USBBS/@WW "authors" post to those distributions is because it's free and they can. Even the few who write constructive, productive, responsible and well-reasoned bulletins stating an opinion or idea would probably be far more effective if they spent the same amount of typing effort to write a letter/e-mail to (A) ARRL Directors/FCC Commissioners/Congressmen/etc, as appropriate; or (B) Submission for publication in QST/CQ/73/New York Times/60 Minutes/etc. Most would be more widely read if hand-printed on a stall in a rest stop along the NJ Turnpike. 8-)

So, back to my original focus (!), I make it a point to ignore @USBBS and @WW bulletins, and would prefer to let my local host PBBS's computer do what it does best, ie, save me work, by helping to take care of this for me automatically. Sounds like N0ARY can. I don't think the current incarnations of the other "Big Ones" can. Add it to my personal wish list! 8-)

Have a fascinating day!

--73 de BB

---

Brian Battles, WS10 "The World's Foremost Authority"  
Tel 203-594-0222 (w), 203-827-9956 (h), fax 203-594-0259  
e-mail bbattles@nai.net (h), bbattles@arrl.org (w)  
Amateur packet radio: WS10@W1EDH.CT.USA.NOAM (AX.25)  
ws10@ws10-2.ampr.org (TCP/IP)

---

## 118. [BBSSIG:1659] Re: discussion summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 23 Aug 1995 19:29:39 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508240029.TAA22364@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: discussion summary

According to Bill...

>>

>> You know its a funny thing, but we have not been seeing any growth in packet  
>> radio in our area for several years. (Remove tongue caught in cheek area of  
>> mouth). I wonder if this is the case in other parts of the country?

>>

>> Rick, KV9U

>

>That's fairly consistent with what I've seen in Montana and Colorado. The  
>only areas getting much real growth are those with reliable Internet gateways.  
>(I'm not saying that's good or bad - it's just what I believe I've observed.)  
>

Wrong. LOCAL nets grow around Internet gateways. Long-haul RF links wither and  
never get replaced. Each Internet gates contributes to the crippling of the  
Packet RADIO network.

>Many folks purchase TNC's, try it for a while and get out. For some it's  
>too complicated and confusing. For others, too slow and frustrating compared  
>to what can be done on the land-line circuits.

>

That's what separates the Hams from the LandLine users.

>With better network design and implementation (it's not the fault of the  
>1200 baud hardware that we have 3 cps circuits...), better BBS (server) and  
>user (client) software and a little better overall organization, we can  
>build a system that will actually be "desirable" to use. Look out World  
>Wide Web.  
>

Wrong. That setup makes us "customers" of Internet, not proud Amateur Radio  
operators who have a global network of our OWN to use.

"Look out WWW?" .. I fail to see how being utterly dependent on Internet is  
supposed to somehow make Amateur Radio "competitive" with it...

>This is really a pretty exciting time - with the new software design tools  
>and the lack of hardware problems faced by the "pioneers" a couple years ago  
>we should be able to come up with some great stuff.  
>

Right on!

P.S. I take it that Wire/RF is no longer VERBOTEN on the BBSSIG, since Bill's  
posting advocating wireline use has been allowed.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

This sentence is true.  
The sentence above is false.

---

## 119. [BBSSIG:1666] Re: ROUTES packet head (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 08:56:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508241356.IAA06171@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: ROUTES packet head

According to Gary...

```
>>>SB KEPS @ AMSAT < FB1RCI $2015_F6KED
>>>MIR Amsat day=229
>>[snip]
>>
>>Instead of stripping the just the headers, this bulletin should have been
>>sent to the
>>bit-bucket. It's a terrible abuse of the AMSAT distribution. After all, the
>>Keps sent
>>by ARRL & AMSAT on a regular basis must certainly be accurate enough
>>for Amateur use. (plus or minus a few seconds)
>>Too bad not enough Sysops bother to setup their Reject.Sys to keep out such
>>stuff.
>>- velaic
>
>Hmm...I didn't make that comment, for fear that practice had been stopped in
>most locations. However, any @AMSAT bull that comes in here is
>automatically held if it doesn't have an AMSAT bid on it, as agreed to
>several years ago. If it's not a legit AMSAT bull, it gets killed on the
>spot. Same goes for ARRL stuff. Improperly bid ones get dumped, even if
>the content is correct. The correct one will be around eventually, if not
>already.
>
```

I've been holding ( and killing most of ) non-standard AMSAT bulls for quite a while, and have forgotten the drill on this and the ARRL bulletins, it's been so long since I set it up. There's a better than even chance that what I currently have set up in my REJECT file is now out of date.

A refresher on this info would help me be sure I've got this function set up correctly, and the info would be handy for guys who haven't set this up yet.

Could you run us through the whys and whats on this Gary?

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

This sentence is true.  
The sentence above is false.

---

## 120. [BBSSIG:1667] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 08:58:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508241358.IAA06195@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

```
>
> > According to Brian Battles...
> [snip]
>
> If I were a SysOp, I might set up my station to ignore all @USBBS and @WW
> stuff coming into or originating on my system. I'd prefer not to waste
> resources offering it to users, and I'd probably want to restrict outgoing
> @USBBS bulletins to a select few people who I knew personally and had been
> tutored in the practical ramifications of using that inefficient
> distribution.
>
```

Too bad you're not a Sysop Brian, if more Sysops took more notice of what was going thru their BBS (especially in the @USBBS and @WW categories) their would be much less pressure on the Networks.

```
> I'd never want to "censor" anything for its content (if legal), so my
> log-on MOTD would notify all users that they aren't getting to see--or
> send--any @WW bulletins, nor @USBBS bulletins other than a few that have
> been reviewed by the station owner/SysOp.
>
```

A few times I've imported the USBBS and WW bulletins from Remy but after

reviewing them I found less than 10% that I would want on my BBS (IMHO) so it wasn't worth the effort.

> If all SysOps chose to handle things this way, it would probably be like a  
> free multi-baud upgrade, speeding up the network and each user's on-line  
> session.  
>

Right-ON, it would be great if more PBBS concentrated on being about Amateur Radio rather than trying to imitate the "anything & everything" of InterNet.

While the loads of junk mail are a pain, what I find disturbing is the abuse of the Amateur Packet system for free Soap-Boxing. Even more disturbing is the topics stray very far from Amateur Radio into such (traditionally) no-no subjects as Sex, Politics and FOR SALE of anything.

While education of the users will clean up some of this the only sure way of controlling the mess is for Sysops to take an active interest in the Quality of their BBS. In no way can the control of \*bulletins\* be considered "censorship". Its just the same Editorial control that all media regularly exercise.

Sorry to go on, but the topic of "BBS Listing" relates to this issue. If BBS didn't have hundreds of useless bulletins then the \*listing\* wouldn't be a problem.  
73 - Ron velaic

---

## 121. [BBSSIG:1668] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 08:58:28 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508241358.IAA06208@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

On Wed, 23 Aug 1995, Battles, Brian, WS10 wrote:

> If I were a SysOp, I might set up my station to ignore all @USBBS and @WW  
> stuff coming into or originating on my system. I'd prefer not to waste

Why not do what I do. Have all forwarding PBBS DON'T BOTHER SENDING ME @USBBS and @WW. This way, it doesn't even get a chance to be rejected. It doesn't even try to send the bulletins, and saves a lot of time and spectrum...

Just my two cents.

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg University \*  
\* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ \*\*\*\*\*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 122. Re: [BBSSIG:1664] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 09:15:31 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508241415.JAA06374@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Brian Battles wrote:

>  
> I guess I still have something against hams routinely entering so much  
> garbage that's addressed to (whatever)@USBBS or (whatever)@WW that I  
> consciously refuse to read those, no matter what the subject (if there is  
> one that makes any sense--I'm particularly impressed by such nonsense as  
> CQ@WW Subj: CQ CQ WW!). IN MY OWN PRIVATE, PERSONAL OPINION (NOT that of the  
> place I work for!!!!--very obligatory disclaimer), I think the huge  
> percentage of @USBBS and @WW postings are done by people who are untrained,  
> ignorant or lazy. The second largest category are people who can't resist  
> the "free" soapbox--under the faulty assumption that most packet BBS users  
> will bother to read their ramblings. And a tiny fraction are genuine  
> bulletins that announce facts of potential interest to all amateurs.  
>

Unfortunately, these are also the characteristics that describe many BBS owners (distinction between this and Sysop). If the BBS system were more organized, the users might catch on.

> If I were a SysOp, I might set up my station to ignore all @USBBS and @WW  
> stuff coming into or originating on my system. I'd prefer not to waste  
> resources offering it to users, and I'd probably want to restrict outgoing  
> @USBBS bulletins to a select few people who I knew personally and had been  
> tutored in the practical ramifications of using that inefficient  
> distribution.  
>

This prompts a thought for a radical experiment. What if we declared a 1 month moratorium on @WW ? For 1 month, just kill all of the @WW. Don't make big deal of it. Just quietly kill them and see if anyone really notices. At the end of the month, analyze the gripes (if there are any).

Barry

---

### 123. [BBSSIG:1673] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 18:19:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508242319.SAA08591@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jbrooks@netins.net  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

>  
> This prompts a thought for a radical experiment. What if we declared  
> a 1 month moratorium on @WW ? For 1 month, just kill all of the @WW.  
> Don't make big deal of it. Just quietly kill them and see if anyone  
> really notices. At the end of the month, analyze the gripes (if there  
> are any).  
>  
>  
> Barry

Interestingly enough, I dropped @WW here some months back and had only ONE complaint. And that was from a neighboring Sysop who suddenly found himself with bulletins and no place to send them. They've since disappeared from his system as well.

73 de Jim, K0JJV

---

### 124. [BBSSIG:1674] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 18:20:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508242320.SAA08604@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

According to Barry Buelow...

>  
  
>> If I were a SysOp, I might set up my station to ignore all @USBBS and @WW  
>> stuff coming into or originating on my system. I'd prefer not to waste  
>> resources offering it to users, and I'd probably want to restrict outgoing  
>> @USBBS bulletins to a select few people who I knew personally and had been  
>> tutored in the practical ramifications of using that inefficient  
>> distribution.  
>>  
>>  
>This prompts a thought for a radical experiment. What if we declared  
>a 1 month moratorium on @WW ? For 1 month, just kill all of the @WW.  
>Don't make big deal of it. Just quietly kill them and see if anyone  
>really notices. At the end of the month, analyze the gripes (if there  
>are any).

>  
>Barry

I've performed variations on this experiment several times over the years.. In all cases I did it because I was forwarding with another BBS over a very "iffy" path which simply wouldn't support any great amount of forwarding and still be available for other uses.

@WW bulletins:

In my personal experience, the @WW bulletins were rarely missed, especially in the past five years or so. When the first Internet gateway in my state came online, the "problem" with @ALLUS bulletins was quickly overshadowed by the sudden influx of hundreds of really trivial @WW bulletins. Prior to the introduction of amateur telephone, there were fewer, smaller, better @WW postings, since they had to "cross the pond" by way of HF packet.

Today, there are two users of my system who regularly read and respond to @WW postings, and a dozen or so who look at them occasionally. The great majority of the folks who use my BBS ignore them.

Of all the useless and oversized @WW postings, I have a feeling that the AMSAT @WW bulletins are the very worst. The info is usually out of date, and serves more to clog up forwarding, and the listing of messages by the BBS's users than anything else. Most (if not all ) have incorrect BIDS and end up being zapped anyway, after having traveled across the planet to get here.

I expressed some uncertainty about this because I'm not a satellite enthusiast, and in my ignorance of that aspect of the hobby, it's difficult for me to accurately gauge these bulletin's usefulness to AMSAT enthusiasts. I can state without reservations that I have never seen a user of my system read or use an AMSAT@WW posting. Can anyone clarify this by commenting on the usefulness of AMSAT@WW from a satellite enthusiast's point of view?

" I was gratified to be able to answer promptly.. I said I didn't know. "

On those few occasions where @ALLUS bulletins also had to be limited or unavailable, I have recieved MANY more complaints and requests from both users and other BBS SYSOPs. In cases where I limited forwarding of @ALLUS bulletins to another BBS over a poor path, I have done the other system ( and it's users ) the courtesy of choosing individual @ALLUS postings which seemed especially worthwhile and forwarding only those.

In cases where the path supports it, though, I just send EVERYTHING on through, and let the SYSOP of the other system decide for himself what he wants to accept or reject.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texcma.com

If they call the residents of Dallas, Tx "Dallasites", what do they call the residents of Paris, TX?

---

## 125. [BBSSIG:1675] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 18:21:34 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508242321.SAA08611@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@ar1.org>  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

On Thu, 24 Aug 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net> replied:

> Brian Battles wrote:  
>  
> > If I were a SysOp, I might set up my station to ignore all @USBBS and @WW  
> > stuff coming into or originating on my system...  
  
> This prompts a thought for a radical experiment. What if we  
> declared a 1 month moratorium on @WW? For 1 month, just kill  
> all of the @WW. Don't make big deal of it. Just quietly kill  
> them and see if anyone notices. At the end of the month,  
> analyze the gripes (if there are any).

That sounds like a wonderful idea, and would probably result in a surprisingly tiny amount of complaints from everyday local PBBS users--although many of them may wonder why doing a PBBS "SB" listing



suddenly takes so little time, and why all other mail and bulletins seem to be moving through the network so fast! My guess is that complaints, if any, would possibly come from non-US hams who might think American PBBS SysOps are discriminating against them (seems to me that most of the @WW bulletins I see listed come from DX call signs.)

--73 de BB

---

Brian Battles, WS10      Features Editor, QST Magazine  
ARRL HQ, Newington, CT USA  
Tel 203-594-0222, fax 203-594-0259, home 203-827-9956  
e-mail bbattles@arrl.org (work), bbbattles@nai.net (home)

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## 126. [BBSSIG:1676] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 18:22:06 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508242322.SAA08618@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

On Aug 24, 9:27am, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

<deletia>

> This prompts a thought for a radical experiment. What if we delcared  
> a 1 month moratorium on @WW ? For 1 month, just kill all of the @WW.  
> Don't make big deal of it. Just quietly kill them and see if anyone  
> really notices. At the end of the month, analize the gripes (if there  
> are any).

This censorship stuff seems really out of place.

Unless I'm really confused, we are here in this interest group  
to promote the growth and development of ham radio network.

How providing fewer services to our users, and restricting  
what they have available to read accomplishes this is beyond  
my comprehension.

Instead of trying to reduce network load by killing off presented  
traffic, shouldn't we focus on how to improve the capabilities  
of the network so it will handle the presented load?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com      "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

## 127. [BBSSIG:1677] RE: Listing bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 18:23:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508242323.SAA08636@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Battles, Brian, WS10" <bbattles@arrl.org>  
Subject: RE: Listing bulletins

On Thu, 24 Aug 1995, rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC) replied:

>>> According to Brian Battles...

>> If all SysOps chose to handle things this way, it would probably be  
like a  
>>free multi-baud upgrade, speeding up the network and each user's on-line  
>>session.  
>  
> Right-ON, it would be great if more PBBS concentrated on  
> being about Amateur Radio, rather than trying to imitate the

> "anything & everything" of InterNet.

I agree that there's no need to imitate some aspects of the Internet (besides, there already is an Internet), but we might be able to learn something about recruiting new enthusiasts by analyzing what has suddenly made the Internet such an exciting, attractive place for so many newcomers (media hype notwithstanding).

On that subject (briefly): Is it the cost? The Web? Near-universal ability to exchange e-mail? Free software downloads (FTP)? More PCs in homes and offices? Or is it just PR...ie, marketing access products so well that people who would otherwise live perfectly happy lives without it are letting themselves be caught up in Internet fever? (I doubt anyone has definite answers, but maybe some thought on this could be applied to amateur packet radio.)

> Although the loads of junk mail are a pain, what I find  
> disturbing is the abuse of the amateur packet system for free  
> soapboxing. Even more disturbing is the topics stray far from  
> Amateur Radio into such (traditionally) no-no  
> subjects as Sex, Politics and FOR SALE of anything.

I differ a bit here. In my own private, personal opinion, unless it's prohibited by FCC Rules, it really shouldn't be of concern. You've always been able to go on VHF FM or HF SSB/CW/RTTY and gab about almost anything, although the best and most respected ham operators use good judgment in avoiding uncomfortable discussions of sex, politics, religion, and so forth...and the "For Sale" nets usually limit sales pitches and haggling. Packet shouldn't have to be any different in those respects.

There was a controversy in my local club a while back when a couple of people proclaimed that "If it isn't about ham radio, it doesn't belong on ham radio," referring to traffic on the club's VHF/UHF voice repeaters and PBBS. The general club response was, of course, "Nonsense!" In addition to emergency preparedness, public service and technical experimentation, Amateur Radio operators are encouraged to help spread goodwill. This includes talking about the things people everywhere like to talk about--discussing non-radio subjects and items of general interest. The ARRL and most commercial ham radio publications have often run articles encouraging hams to delve into more interesting exchanges than the ubiquitous "RST, Name, QTH, 73." For instance, it's perfectly appropriate to discuss fascinating geographic, cultural or gastronomic topics with a ham in a foreign country, if he/she is so inclined and able to chat.

> Although education of the users will clean up some of this  
> the only sure way of controlling the mess is for SysOps to  
> take an active interest in the Quality of their PBBSs. In no  
> way can the control of \*bulletins\* be considered  
> "censorship". It's just the same editorial control that all media  
regularly exercise.

I wouldn't compare ham radio PBBSs with "the media," but SysOps should monitor their systems at least to review traffic for legal compliance, and to check bulletins' addresses/distribution for responsible, effective network management.

> ...If PBBSs didn't have hundreds of useless  
> bulletins, the \*listing\* wouldn't be a problem.  
>  
> 73 - Ron, VE1AIC

And it might indirectly help attract and retain more PBBS users and potential network-development specialist types.

--73 de BB

---

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Tel 203-594-0222, fax 203-594-0259, 203-827-9956 (home)  
e-mail bbattles@arrl.org (w), bbattles@nai.net (h)

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## 128. [BBSSIG:1678] Re: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 18:24:12 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@taapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508242324.SAA08643@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Subject: Re: Listing PBBS bulletins

Barry Buelow, WA0RJT, wrote:

>This prompts a thought for a radical experiment. What if we declared  
>a 1 month moratorium on @WW ? For 1 month, just kill all of the @WW.  
>Don't make big deal of it. Just quietly kill them and see if anyone  
>really notices. At the end of the month, analyze the gripes (if there  
>are any).

About a year ago, I considered dropping all @WW bulletins. In my opinion, as many of you have expressed, most of them are a waste of time. Since the BBS I operate (W6PW, the SFARC system) is a gateway here in Northern California, I checked with the other sysops for their views and also requested the opinion of the local users.

I still accept and forward @WW bulletins. Most sysops felt that since our network has been able to handle the load, there was no need to eliminate them. Only one LAN asked that they not be forwarded. As for the users' views, a majority felt that eliminating these bulletins would be depriving them of a lot of information. The vote was 55 to 19 to keep @WW. Five users said they didn't care one way or the other. In comments received, the general view was that they'd would prefer to have them available and use their own judgement as to what they read or didn't read. A couple even mentioned that eliminating @WW would be a form of censorship.

Since I operate my BBS for the users (and I think that's how we all should operate) their opinion weighs strongly in what I do or don't do. Perhaps you ought to see what your users think before you start making changes.

We need to work on providing the users with an easier way of listing the bulletins; listing what they want, or eliminating what they don't want. It looks like the N0ARY software already has the means of doing that, and the SCANBULL server that Wayne, WD4LYV, mentioned is a good step in the right direction. I plan to download and install SCANBULL this weekend.

73, Larry Kenney, WB9LOZ  
Packet: WB9LOZ @ W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
E-mail: lkenney@slip.net

---

## 129. [BBSSIG:1679] RE: Listing PBBS bulle (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 18:25:16 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508242325.SAA08650@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: SLSC65A@prodigy.com (MR RODNEY G FOWLER)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulle

I have been reading with interest about the @usbbs and @ww bulletins and what we should or should not handle.. My position here is that of a Bulletin Distributor, I support no users, they couldn't get into the BBS anyway since it is tied up consistently with forwarding!

In reviewing my BBS of the bulletins I find that 99% of the @WW is just plainly junk, about 90% of the @usbbs or @usa, whichever you prefer is also just junk.. Therefor, why carry them?

One thing to remember, supposed Hank W0RLI comes out with a new release of his BBS program, he will enter it as @usbbs most likely, we should have the works in place so that his bulletin is NOT STOPPED and KILLED.. Every BBS in the country (and Canada) should have his bulletin on it..

Therefore, if we are to cut down on the Trash mail we would have to review all the @ww and @usbbs bulletins that arrive on our systems and allow those of importance to fly through.

73 de Rod K2ADJ

---

## 130. [BBSSIG:1687] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 22:32:35 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508250332.WAA09715@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

On Aug 24, 6:26pm, jbrooks@netins.net wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1680] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins  
> >  
> > This prompts a thought for a radical experiment. What if we declared  
> > a 1 month moratorium on @WW ? For 1 month, just kill all of the @WW.  
> > Don't make big deal of it. Just quietly kill them and see if anyone  
> > really notices. At the end of the month, analyze the gripes (if there  
> > are any).  
> >  
> >  
> > Barry  
>  
>  
> Interestingly enough, I dropped @WW here some months back and had only ONE  
> complaint. And that was from a neighboring Sysop who suddenly found himself  
> with bulletins and no place to send them. They've since disappeared from  
> his system as well.  
>  
>  
>  
> 73 de Jim, K0JJV

And then we can drop the @ USA, because they are of little value  
and then the ARRL, and the AMSAT ... and soon the network will no  
longer be overloaded, because it will not be handling any traffic.

Please think about this very carefully folks.

We are talking censorship.

Put another name on it if you like, but censorship it what it is.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
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Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

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### 131. [BBSSIG:1688] RE: Listing PBBS bulle (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 22:33:59 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508250333.WAA09738@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulle

On Aug 24, 6:33pm, MR RODNEY G FOWLER wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1686] RE: Listing PBBS bulle  
> I have been reading with interest about the @usbbs and @ww bulletins and  
> what we should or should not handle.. My position here is that of a  
> Bulletin Distributor, I support no users, they couldn't get into the BBS  
> anyway since it is tied up consistently with forwarding!  
>  
> In reviewing my BBS of the bulletins I find that 99% of the @WW is just  
> plainly junk, about 90% of the @usbbs or @usa, whichever you prefer is also  
> just junk.. Therefor, why carry them?  
>  
> One thing to remember, supposed Hank W0RLI comes out with a new release of  
> his BBS program, he will enter it as @usbbs most likely, we should have the  
> works in place so that his bulletin is NOT STOPPED and KILLED.. Every BBS  
> in the country (and Canada) should have his bulletin on it..

Actually, there will be at least three:

@ PDX  
@ USA  
@ WW

The bulletin @ PDX includes information on how to get the release via packet, the others do not.

The second two bulletins will be sent by N6IYA as he does all distribution. The first I send myself, and the local folks will pick up the release the same night over the network.

> Therefore, if we are to cut down on the Trash mail we would have to review  
> all the @ww and @usbbs bulletins that arrive on our systems and allow those  
> of importance to fly through.

I for one am unwilling to act as censor; things unimportant to me (e.g. AMSAT and ARRL) may be of interest to others down the line somewhere, or to some of my users. I kill nothing, and pass everything on, whether I think it is "important" or not.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

### 132. [BBSSIG:1689] Re: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 22:36:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508250336.WAA09773@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Howard Goldstein <hg@penny.n2wx.ampr.org>  
Subject: Re: Listing PBBS bulletins

On Thu, 24 Aug 1995, Larry Kenney wrote:

> The vote was 55 to 19 to keep @WW. Five users said they didn't  
> care one way or the other. In comments received, the general view  
> was that they'd would prefer to have them available and use their  
> own judgement as to what they read or didn't read. A couple even  
> mentioned that eliminating @WW would be a form of censorship.

It would be censorship, but it'd be content-neutral censorship. The anti-censorship attitude most of us adhere to oughtn't be implicated by this kind of benign censorship any more than a newspaper censors Beetle Bailey when it replaces it with Life In Hell or an advertisement box. (I realize that your users made the censorship observation; I'm not sure how you feel about it)

..

> We need to work on providing the users with an easier way of list-  
> ing the bulletins; listing what they want, or eliminating what  
> they don't want. It looks like the N0ARY software already has the

RIGHT ON! This is \*the\* factor for one as myself, a mere user sitting behind a terminal almost as dumb as myself. The censorship solution is but a workaround for an unfriendly interface.

Howie

--

Howard Goldstein, N2WX <hg@n2wx.ampr.org> <http://www.tapr.org/~n2wx/>

---

### 133. [BBSSIG:1690] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 22:36:46 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508250336.WAA09785@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

>Interestingly enough, I dropped @WW here some months back and had only ONE  
>complaint. And that was from a neighboring Sysop who suddenly found himself  
>with bulletins and no place to send them. They've since disappeared from  
>his system as well.  
>  
>  
>  
>73 de Jim, K0JJV

Hi Jim! The only complaint I've ever gotten about @WW bulletins was last year when I opened the gates and allowed them to be forwarded in here. The users couldn't believe all that stuff! They begged for it to be gone again. It is. :)

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 134. @WW

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 24 Aug 1995 22:54:53 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508250354.WAA09903@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Gee, people are reading this stuff (-:-).

About a month ago someone made a comment that vaguely referred to censorship and it floated by without notice.

I'm not sure where to go with this discussion as both pro and con have good comments. I don't happen to have the last couple of dozen msgs in front of me so I may not have this 100% correct.

Someone said they only forward, no users, and made an assessment that much of the @WW and @USA was of low value. I'd hate for this question to change your life, but I have to ask: so, why ARE you running a BBS?

Hank, I understand your point about censoring but don't fully agree. As Howie pointed out, it is not subject limited, it's not quite an equal opportunity situation. What if I propose only fwding bltns that have odd msg numbers or BIDs with even parity? That would be a more fair algorithm.

A comment was made that users objected to the volume and clutter. A point I've been trying to make more effectively.

At the minimum, I find the diversity of opinion interesting and I'm amazed at the strength of the conviction on both ends of the spectrum.

Barry

---

## 135. [BBSSIG:1696] RE: Listing PBBS bulle (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 25 Aug 1995 09:57:32 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508251457.JAA23401@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: birdman@exit109.com (John)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulle

>I have been reading with interest about the @usbbs and @ww bulletins and  
>what we should or should not handle.. My position here is that of a  
>Bulletin Distributor, I support no users, they couldn't get into the BBS  
>anyway since it is tied up consistently with forwarding!  
>

>In reviewing my BBS of the bulletins I find that 99% of the @WW is just  
>plainly junk, about 90% of the @usbbs or @usa, whichever you prefer is also  
>just junk.. Therefore, why carry them?  
>

>One thing to remember, supposed Hank W0RLI comes out with a new release of  
>his BBS program, he will enter it as @usbbs most likely, we should have the  
>works in place so that his bulletin is NOT STOPPED and KILLED.. Every BBS  
>in the country (and Canada) should have his bulletin on it..  
>

>Therefore, if we are to cut down on the Trash mail we would have to review  
>all the @ww and @usbbs bulletins that arrive on our systems and allow those

>of importance to fly through.  
>  
>73 de Rod K2ADJ  
>  
>  
>

All I can say is that Rod said it all.... The messages should get through, but we as sysops have to spend some time feeding out the bad and useless bulletins.

73, John WT3V

---

### 136. [BBSSIG:1697] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 25 Aug 1995 09:58:04 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508251458.JAA23421@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

Hmmm... I don't know if the other software has this ability, but with my rebbs I can decide what traffic comes in and what doesn't by using the REJECT {search} command in the action.bb file where search can be just about anything such as @ USBBS or @ WW etc. You can control messages >, messages <, messages @TO, messages @FROM, etc, etc... I suppose that could be called censorship, but it's my bbs and I decide what comes in and what goes out... If I receive a bulletin/message that is in the reject list, the forwarding bbs gets a NO and the sending station simply gets a message telling him that such a message cannot be posted. 73, Ed

---

### 137. [BBSSIG:1698] SCANBUL 1.31 Questions (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 25 Aug 1995 09:59:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508251459.JAA23457@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: INFOPLAN.IPLAN1.LOUISE@cape\_smtp\_gw.iplan.co.za  
Subject: SCANBUL 1.31 Questions

I've read a few of these bulletins on this SIG about the Scanbul and all the nice things that it is supposed to do.

At my BBS(ZS0DLT.TVL.ZAF.AF) I run FBB 5.15c and installed it about a month ago.

Only the first week it worked correct. Thereafter it picked up messages that I cannot see the relation to the keyword. I have sent out a packet message to the author, but with no avail. With the current propagation conditions and the speed of the overseas traffic anything could've happened to the message.

Does anyone here know what I should look out for and maybe someone can get me in contact with the author.

73's Louis, de ZR6ABC.

---

### 138. [BBSSIG:1700] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 26 Aug 1995 13:25:58 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508261825.NAA12203@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Forwarded message:  
>From bbssig@tapr.org Fri Aug 25 10:17:50 1995  
Date: Fri, 25 Aug 1995 10:11:24 -0500  
Message-Id: <199508251458.JAA23421@zeus.ia.net>  
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
Precedence: bulk  
From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1700] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
Content-Length: 1880  
Content-Type: text  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

Hmmm... I don't know if the other software has this ability, but with my rebbs I can decide what traffic comes in and what doesn't by using the REJECT {search} command in the action.bb file where search can be just about anything such as @ USBBS or @ WW etc. You can control messges >, messages <, messages @TO, messages @FROM, etc, etc... I suppose that could be called censorship, but it's my bbs and I decide what comes in and what goes out... If I receive a bulletin/message that is in the reject list, the forwarding bbs gets a NO and the sending station simply gets a message telling him that such a message cannot be posted. 73, Ed

---

### 139. [BBSSIG:1699] RE: Listing PBBS bulle (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 26 Aug 1995 13:27:18 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508261827.NAA12233@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From bbssig@tapr.org Fri Aug 25 10:19:32 1995  
>Date: Fri, 25 Aug 1995 10:09:25 -0500  
>Message-Id: <199508251457.JAA23401@zeus.ia.net>  
>Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
>Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
>Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
>Precedence: bulk  
>From: birdman@exit109.com (John)  
>To: bbssig@tapr.org  
>Subject: [BBSSIG:1699] RE: Listing PBBS bulle  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
Content-Length: 2428  
Content-Type: text  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

>I have been reading with interest about the @usbbs and @ww bulletins and  
>what we should or should not handle.. My position here is that of a  
>Bulletin Distributor, I support no users, they couldn't get into the BBS  
>anyway since it is tied up consistently with forwarding!  
>  
>In reviewing my BBS of the bulletins I find that 99% of the @WW is just  
>plainly junk, about 90% of the @usbbs or @usa, whichever you prefer is also  
>just junk.. Therefor, why carry them?  
>  
>One thing to remember, supposed Hank W0RLI comes out with a new release of  
>his BBS program, he will enter it as @usbbs most likely, we should have the  
>works in place so that his bulletin is NOT STOPPED and KILLED.. Every BBS  
>in the country (and Canada) should have his bulletin on it..  
>  
>Therefore, if we are to cut down on the Trash mail we would have to review  
>all the @ww and @usbbs bulletins that arrive on our systems and allow those  
>of importance to fly through.  
>  
>73 de Rod K2ADJ  
>  
>  
>

All I can say is that Rod said it all.... The messages should get through,  
but we as sysops have to spend some  
time feeding out the bad and useless bulletins.

73, John WT3V

---

### 140. [BBSSIG:1703] Re: @WW (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 26 Aug 1995 13:30:00 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508261830.NAA12258@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: @WW



On Aug 24, 11:02pm, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1695] @WW

>

> Gee, people are reading this stuff (-).

>

> About a month ago someone made a comment that vaguely referred to  
> censorship and it floated by without notice.

>

> I'm not sure where to go with this discussion as both pro and con  
> have good comments. I don't happen to have the last couple of dozen  
> msgs in front of me so I may not have this 100% correct.

>

> Someone said they only forward, no users, and made an assessment that  
> much of the @WW and @USA was of low value. I'd hate for this question  
> to change your life, but I have to ask: so, why ARE you running a BBS?

>

> Hank, I understand your point about censoring but don't fully agree.  
> As Howie pointed out, it is not subject limited, it's not quite  
> an equal opportunity situation. What if I propose only fwding  
> bltns that have odd msg numbers or BIDs with even parity? That  
> would be a more fair algorithm.

I would respond with exactly the same comments: who are you to decide what is "of value" and what is not. The person posting the bulletin chose a distribution for that bulletin with the expectation it would indeed be so distributed. We (us sysops) are here to provide a service. The network of bbs systems as a whole advertises some specific capabilities: "Send it @ USA and every bbs in the USA will carry it, send it @ WW and every bbs in the world will carry it."

The most important point I tried (and failed) to make is that I think this discussion does not belong in this forum: it is a policy issue.

If we are going to discuss policy, then we need to open up the discussion to all these policy issues. If we are not going to discuss policy, then all policy issues should be banned.

The policy issue is "Who shall control the distribution of messages created by the users of the linked bbs system." My view is that each user should control the distribution of each message they send, without interference by any sysop.

My understanding is that the goal of this group is to IMPROVE the operation of the linked BBS network. To that end we should be considering means to INCREASE the amount of traffic we can carry, thus providing more diversity for our users, rather than discussing how to LIMIT the amount of traffic to fit some real or imagined limitation of the EXISTING network.

An example: in the Portland metro network, we suggest (but do not require) that each bbs system have its own link into the 9600 baud backbone network, so as to better handle the projected increase in traffic load. We expect it will increase from the present 400-600 messages per day to around 1000 message per day within 12 months. We now have an average 5 minute delay passing a message from one system to another, which occasionally increases to 10 or 15 minutes. Our goal is "fast enough that no user ever notices a delay." We are building network and changing procedures to reach that goal.

> A comment was made that users objected to the volume and clutter. A  
> point I've been trying to make more effectively.

There are two issues involved: 1) how much traffic actually exists;  
2) can the users see that traffic in a way that is useful to them.

We NEVER hear any complaints about "volume" or "clutter" ... we have educated our users in the use of the available software: they know how to see what they wish and ignore what they don't wish to see. In fact, we do hear complaints that there is not ENOUGH information available, and we get requests to provide both MORE and BETTER service.

> At the minimum, I find the diversity of opinion interesting and I'm  
> amazed at the strength of the conviction on both ends of the spectrum.

Seems to me that sysops fall into two camps, with very few falling between:

1. Restrict everything as much as possible, allowing only the minimum you are forced to allow.

2. Restrict nothing unless it is shown to be required to avoid some disaster like "network meltdown."

Here in this part of the country, we call these the CLOSED vs. OPEN folks.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

---

## 141. [BBSSIG:1704] RE: Listing PBBS bulle (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WAØRJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 26 Aug 1995 13:30:35 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508261830.NAA12275@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulle

On Aug 25, 10:09am, John wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1699] RE: Listing PBBS bulle  
> >I have been reading with interest about the @usbbs and @ww bulletins and  
> >what we should or should not handle.. My position here is that of a  
> >Bulletin Distributor, I support no users, they couldn't get into the BBS  
> >anyway since it is tied up consistently with forwarding!  
> >  
> >In reviewing my BBS of the bulletins I find that 99% of the @WW is just  
> >plainly junk, about 90% of the @usbbs or @usa, whichever you prefer is also  
> >just junk.. Therefor, why carry them?  
> >  
> >One thing to remember, supposed Hank WØRLI comes out with a new release of  
> >his BBS program, he will enter it as @usbbs most likely, we should have the  
> >works in place so that his bulletin is NOT STOPPED and KILLED.. Every BBS  
> >in the country (and Canada) should have his bulletin on it..  
> >  
> >Therefore, if we are to cut down on the Trash mail we would have to review  
> >all the @ww and @usbbs bulletins that arrive on our systems and allow those  
> >of importance to fly through.  
> >  
> >73 de Rod K2ADJ  
> >  
> >  
> >  
> All I can say is that Rod said it all.... The messages should get through,  
> but we as sysops have to spend some  
> time feeding out the bad and useless bulletins.

What are "bad and useless bulletins?"

Since we seem to have opened up this policy debate, let's at least be clear about what we are debating: I would call it censorship, but am not fussy about what term we use.

You did mean "weeding" and not "feeding", right?

The software "feeds them out" all by itself.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: WØRLI@WØRLI.ØR.USA.NOAM

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## 142. [BBSSIG:1705] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WAØRJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 26 Aug 1995 13:31:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508261831.NAA12291@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

On Aug 25, 10:11am, EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR. wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1700] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins  
> Hmm... I don't know if the other software has this ability, but with my  
> rebbs I can decide what traffic comes in and what doesn't by using the  
> REJECT {search} command in the action.bb file where search can be just  
> about anything such as @ USBBS or @ WW etc. You can control messages >,  
> messages <, messages @TO, messages @FROM, etc, etc... I suppose that could  
> be called censorship, but it's my bbs and I decide what comes in and what  
> goes out... If I receive a bulletin/message that is in the reject list,  
> the forwarding bbs gets a NO and the sending station simply gets a message  
> telling him that such a message cannot be posted. 73, Ed

And you deprive the next bbs down the line of the chance to  
make up their own mind whether to reject or accept that bulletin.

As a policy, I would hope that the other bbs systems in your  
area will bypass your system, so that the systems down the line  
from yours will be able to receive these bulletins you reject.

As a policy, I would hope that other hams in your area will  
establish new bbs systems which allow all bulletins to be seen  
and read by their users.

To restate the obvious: If I reject all AMSAT, and the next  
system down the line rejects at ARRL and the next one rejects  
all USA and the next one rejects all WW, pretty soon we will  
not need a linked bbs network as there will be no traffic for  
it to handle.

Please educate me if I am wrong, but this interest group is here  
to promote the growth and development of the world-wide network  
of linked bbs systems, not to discover ways to kill it off.

... Hank

--

|                                        |                    |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics         | Library Operations |
| Internet : hank_oredson@mentorg.com    | "Parts 'R Us!"     |
| Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM |                    |

---

### 143. [BBSSIG:1706] Censorship (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 26 Aug 1995 13:33:02 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508261833.NAA12312@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: SLSC65A@prodigy.com (MR RODNEY G FOWLER)  
Subject: Censorship

I guess it is my turn at this again, eh what?

OK Hank, it could be construed to be censorship but will not go any further  
into that as it has been hashed over for years on Packet, oh yes, I have  
read them also. hi.

Someone responded to my analysis of bulletins being greater than 90% trash  
and asked "why was I running a BBS?" Yes, that needs a response also, this  
can also be used to address those that do weed out what they consider  
trash.. There is an old saying that says "ONE MANS TRASH IS ANOTHER MAN'S  
GOLD", you will always find a user that looks at the CQ bulletins for some  
one to start communicating with, there are those that have a cooking hobby  
also and use those receipt bulletins and those that love to read the HUMOR  
bulletins. DX Bulletins, there are thousands of DX hounds and there are  
those that work the satellites and need the AMSAT bulletins.

I agree with Hank on something better is needed but I would like to say  
that the cost of implementation has to be minimal! Not everyone can go out  
and purchase a 9600 baud system, shucks, if you talk about my LAN, I can  
see 6 SYSOPS running out and plunking down 400-600 dollars for a new  
system, you're certainly kidding!

Xfwd'ng or as Hank calls it, RLI compression is the best thing since grandma made her first apple pie.. That compression (LZH) will cut down a message to about 40% or less which allows more messages to be forwarded. Recently I had a case of a StarTrek mailing which consisted of 52 bulletins all exactly the SAME except for the SEND line, they were all forwarded to ONE BBS since they were all for out of my state, the 70,000 bytes in the 52 bulletins was knocked down to 3,529 bytes and at 2400 baud, all flew to the other BBS in 2 min and 30 seconds, now, we need more mailings like that! Of course it is impossible to have more of that type of compression but the secret was, all of the bulletins had the SAME TEXT! Prior to XFWD'ng (RLI Style) I had to use FBB type compression, XFWD'ng beats FBB by a country mile. Hank, I have noticed several on this SIG that complain about all the mail they have to move are running FBB or AA4RE systems, I don't beleive that either of those systems support XFWD'ng type compression.

So Hank, how can we improve it any better, how can the USER get his listing in a FASTER methode than what FBB, MSYS and PRMBS already have? Just had a brain storm.....Is there a terminal program out that the users can use that supports XFWD'ng so that when the LISTING of the BBS is sent to the USER it is sent in the COMPRESSED form? I realize this would also have to be incorporated into all the BBS programs but at least it is an IDEA.

73 de Rod (k2adj)

---

#### 144. [BBSSIG:1707] New C-BBS release for Amiga available. (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 26 Aug 1995 13:35:43 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508261835.NAA12356@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Peter Hardie <hardie@duke.usask.ca>  
Subject: New C-BBS release for Amiga available.

I've made available for anonymous FTP version 7.20p of C-BBS for the Amiga on:  
ftp.usask.ca

in directory:  
pub/amiga/hamradio

The distribution (c-bbs720p.lzh), documentation (c-doc720p.lzh) and source code (c-src720p.lzh) are in separate LHARC archives.

73 de Pete  
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

---

#### 145. [BBSSIG:1715] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 26 Aug 1995 21:54:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508270254.VAA19388@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

On Sat, 26 Aug 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:

Lots removed

> Please educate me if I am wrong, but this interest group is here  
> to promote the growth and development of the world-wide network  
> of linked bbs systems, not to discover ways to kill it off.  
>  
> ... Hank  
>  
>

It bothers me to agree with Hank, but from time to time it happens. What is going to be proven by killing all @WW messages? As said it just deprives the writer of the understood packet bbs policy that it will be flooded all over the world on the "Wonderful BBS Network".

I never kill anything. Except bad messages from MY users. But often my feed of @WW fails. When it does it is gone sometimes for a week or more. I have yet to receive many messages from users about this. The only one I remember was about a huge 7+ picture that a user had 23 of 34 messages when my feed broke. He was irritated but not HALF as irritated as I was getting and forwarding 23 messages each of 10k bites all over the state. But I do it and will continue to do it.

I read 2 messages today on my bbs that were of bad taste and frankly it sounded like a big lie. But I didn't kill the meessages. I sent the author a message asking him to please be more careful.

-karl

---

#### 146. [BBSSIG:1718] RE: Listing PBBS bulletins (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 27 Aug 1995 11:14:06 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508271614.LAA28192@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: RE: Listing PBBS bulletins

>  
>As a policy, I would hope that the other bbs systems in your  
>area will bypass your system, so that the systems down the line  
>from yours will be able to receive these bulletins you reject.  
>  
>As a policy, I would hope that other hams in your area will  
>establish new bbs systems which allow all bulletins to be seen  
>and read by their users.  
>  
>To restate the obvious: If I reject all AMSAT, and the next  
>system down the line rejects at ARRL and the next one rejects  
>all USA and the next one rejects all WW, pretty soon we will  
>not need a linked bbs network as there will be no traffic for  
>it to handle.  
>  
>Please educate me if I am wrong, but this interest group is here  
>to promote the growth and development of the world-wide network  
>of linked bbs systems, not to discover ways to kill it off.  
>  
> ... Hank

You sure are wrong, and so is your attitude.  
You have a nasty habit of taking a reasonable discussion and turning it into an All-or-Nothing, My-Way or No-Way argument.  
The above is just such an example.  
Its also an example of taking a discussion to the EXTREME.  
I dont know of any BBS that rejects @ARRL or @AMSAT, and I dont see anything "obvious" in that topic.  
These are bulletins from bonifide Amateur Organisations and they are BY/FOR/ABOUT Amateur Radio.

It seems to be a general feeling that the majority of @ALLUS and @WW bulletins are junk-mail. Whether a Sysop decides to carry/fwd them is his own business.

I consider it very bad taste to flame someone for his decision on this one way or the other.  
I dont know of any of such \*policy\* as such, nor am I suggesting any.  
This is a "discussion group" about BBS operations, or at least I thought it was.

73 - Ron velaic

---

#### 147. [BBSSIG:1717] WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 27 Aug 1995 11:20:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508271620.LAA28221@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY" <tburton@wolfdenswsc.k12.ar.us>  
Subject: WP Updates

I received a message from N5MTO the BBS to my west, his message stated that a station to the west of him had requested that he stop sending WP Updates. My WP messages are sent to N6IYA. I would like to hear from John N6IYA

before I stop sending the messages.

73 De Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY / Prescott AR 71857-2505  
Amateur Packet Radio: KB5ILY @ KB5ILY.SWAR.AR.USA.NOAM  
Internet: tburton@wolfdan.swsc.k12.ar.us  
WWW: <http://wolfdan.swsc.k12.ar.us/~tburton/>  
GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES of AMERICA

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## 148. more @ww

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 27 Aug 1995 17:30:19 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508272230.RAA29094@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

The issue of bulletin content is not restricted to bbs SYSOPs. Unfortunately, it falls to us to examine the issue and, potentially, do something about it. As evidence of the scope of this issue, let me comment on the impact of bulletin content as it relates to other members of the packet community.

### Users

Many users, and I would suggest a majority, view a large portion of the @US and @WW as having low value. This is obvious from the fact that users read an extremely small amount of the huge volumes of @US and @WW. In fact, they complain about low quality and large quantities.

### Node Operators

We are all concerned with RF links going away. The reasons they are not being maintained varies, but one observation is that nodes spend 99% of their transmitter key down time forwarding low value bulletins. A large number of nodes are independently operated. The node op has to believe in the value of his service or be convinced by some logical discussion.

### BBS SYSOPs

Clearly, we are divided on the "value" of bulletins. Each of us perceives our responsibilities to be slightly different.

Complicating this issue is the fact that each BBS is a local resource and a small portion of the worldwide network. The demands of these two aspects are not entirely clear to each SYSOP and in fact appear to conflict. It is impossible to separate these two operations. Maybe this should be changed.

### Suggestions

1. Multicast has to come to life soon. This will have several effects:
  - + it will reduce the local network loading,
  - + using wide area coverage (40 or 6 mtrs) could reduce dependence on local nodes,
  - + improve delivery times for both P and B,
  - + form a more hierarchical network structure,
  - + allow demanding users to capture bulletins directly and reduce local channel loading.
2. Independent of the content issue, the existing scheme needs to change so we (Sysops) look more organized. Free form TO has got to go and the example most users are familiar with is newsgroups.

73 Barry

---

## 149. [BBSSIG:1721] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 27 Aug 1995 17:14:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508272214.RAA29006@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

On Sun, 27 Aug 1995, Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY wrote:

> I received a message from N5MT0 the BBS to my west, his message stated that  
> a station to the west of him had requested that he stop sending WP Updates.  
> My WP messages are sent to N6IYA. I would like to hear from John N6IYA  
> before I stop sending the messages.  
>

Travis and other BBS sysops. It is not necessary to send your bbs White Pages (WP) updates to the Master WP update holder n6iya. It is only important that you send them to the nearest bbs you forward with that is on the route to n6iya.

For example, my bbs k5di is the gateway to NM. I forward to and receive mail from all other bbs in my state. I asked kc5izt to get all the bbs in the north to exchange WP updates with him (Kendall Mauldin) and he exchanges with me. That way I get ALL the updates from the north in 1 update from Kendall. And Kendall gets all the updates from me which include updates from Glenn in Tucson and Remi in Houston. All the NM WP updates get to Tucson to Glenn who sends them to Bullhead City, on the way to N6IYA.

There is no reason travis to do any more than this. Think about it a minute or 3 and I think you will see how it works.

-karl

---

## 150. [BBSSIG:1724] Re: more @ww (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 17:37:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508282237.RAA23673@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: more @ww

On Mon, 28 Aug 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

>  
> The issue of bulletin content is not restricted to bbs SYSOPs.  
> Unfortunately, it falls to us to examine the issue and,  
> potentially, do something about it. As evidence of the scope of  
> this issue, let me comment on the impact of bulletin content as  
> it relates to other members of the packet community.  
>  
> Users  
> Many users, and I would suggest a majority, view a large portion  
> of the @US and @WW as having low value. This is obvious from the  
> fact that users read an extremely small amount of the huge  
> volumes of @US and @WW. In fact, they complain about low quality  
> and large quantities.

Group, who writes these low value bulletins? Why it's the Users! They write this stuff that other users find of "low value". Many that come from @WW use poor English. This is often because it's their second or THIRD language! How many of us here in the USA could write as well in German?

>  
> Node Operators  
> We are all concerned with RF links going away. The reasons they  
> are not being maintained varies, but one observation is that  
> nodes spend 99% of their transmitter key down time forwarding low  
> value bulletins. A large number of nodes are independently  
> operated. The node op has to believe in the value of his service  
> or be convinced by some logical discussion.  
>

I do know node sysops that are not also BBS sysops but they are often the same. If the network is set up well it will pass all the current bulletins in just a few hours, and mail in just a few minutes.

> BBS SYSOPs  
 > Clearly, we are divided on the "value" of bulletins. Each of us  
 > perceives our responsibilities to be slightly different.  
 >  
 > Every bbs sysop has his/her own view on what is good and bad  
 about what we are doing. They are independant, as I am, and do what they  
 think is right.

What we bbs sysops CAN do is:

1. Read EVERY bulletin your user's enter into your bbs.
2. Have a number of limited distribution @XXX that you can use.
3. Change the distribution of the user's message to fit the current conditions, ie: Make SALE@USA SALE@ALLNM when the item for sale is a 70 foot tower.
4. Make a few errors and answer the user(s) complaints. They AND you will learn and the quality of bulletins will improve.

> Complicating this issue is the fact that each BBS is a local  
 > resource and a small portion of the worldwide network. The  
 > demands of these two aspects are not entirely clear to each SYSOP  
 > and in fact appear to conflict. It is impossible to separate  
 > these two operations. Maybe this should be changed.  
 >

> Suggestions

- > 1. Multicast has to come to life soon. This will have several  
 > effects:
- > + it will reduce the local network loading,
  - > + using wide area coverage (40 or 6 mtrs) could reduce  
 > dependence on local nodes,
  - > + improve delivery times for both P and B,
  - > + form a more hierarchical network structure,
  - > + allow demanding users to capture bulletins directly  
 > and reduce local channel loading.
- >

If multicast is as complex as that used with FBB then it will not  
 be popular. We sysops seem to be the only ones getting it up and working...

- > 2. Independent of the content issue, the existing scheme needs  
 > to change so we (Sysops) look more organized. Free form T0 has  
 > got to go and the example most users are familiar with is  
 > newsgroups.  
 >  
 > 73 Barry  
 >  
 >

Barry I have 25 daily users. Of that group less than 3 have an  
 internet server and less than 3 have ever used "tin" or seen a newsgroup.  
 You assume too much...:)

-karl

>  
 >

## 151. [BBSSIG:1725] Improving The Network (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 17:38:49 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199508282238.RAA23701@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain  
 Sender: SLSC65A@prodigy.com (MR RODNEY G FOWLER)  
 Subject: Improving The Network

In one of Hanks recent epistles he mentions the fact that our



focus should be on the betterment of forwarding via the network or taking steps to improve upon it. (Or words to that effect)

If you look around you and especially on the backbone networks, what do you find, the first thing I found was BBS after BBS forwarding bulletins in the NON-COMPRESSED mode. This is ridiculous to my way of thinking. When I can forward bulletins and mail at 35-45% of the original size and in BATCHES of 10-25 bulletins at a whack, it doesn't take very long to move several hundred bulletins.

But, what do we have out there, I am a small time operator but here is what I see..

```
PRMBS - Supports RLI Compression (LZH)
MSYS - Supports both RLI and FBB type Compression.
FBB - Supports it own type of compression
CBBS - By K3RLI - NO COMPRESSSION
C-BBS - By W0RLI supports his own compression (LZH)
AA4RE - As far as I know it supports NO COMPRESSION
..etc - How many other BBS programs are there out there?
```

As you can see from the listing, only 3 types support the RLI (LZH) compression and 2 BBS programs support the FBB type compression. Right there we have a problem, it is a big problem since every sysop runs the BBS of his choice due to the flavors that each one of them has.

In order to really increase the throughput of the forwarding backbone, we should all be running a BBS program that supports the compressed forwarding of the BBS we are forwarding with. How about all BBS's running just ONE type of compression, can the GURU's agree on that? Probably not.. We were hoping for FBB to install the RLI (LZH) compression with its next release, present word is, that is not.. Seems there is a law over in France that every forwarded message, the title of it must be able to be read on the fly. Ho Hum...

I have made it a policy of my station that I will not forward all the bulletins to another BBS unless they can be forwarded utilizing compression unless they are a direct connect with a rock solid path 24 hours a day..

Well Hank, this is one place to start hacking at the network.. Comments appreciated but we do not need flames, just concrete discussion, hiyall..

73 de Rod (k2adj)

---

## 152. [BBSSIG:1726] Re: more @ww (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 17:39:20 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508282239.RAA23726@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: more @ww

On Mon, 28 Aug 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

```
> 2. Independent of the content issue, the existing scheme needs
> to change so we (Sysops) look more organized. Free form TO has
> got to go and the example most users are familiar with is
> newsgroups.
```

This is a good idea. Instead of changing things yet, lets see if we can fix the problem.

I think the problem is this above: Too many users are posting to @WW and @allusa when a local distribution would be 100 times more effective. My great one is: sale@allusa or want@allusa. I believe that through user education, all will be improved.

I know this is why I help my users out, and hold all @allusa or @ww that are locally entered. Then I talk to my user about the message to see if it need to have such a wide spread. Most users that are frequent use a local id such as @epa, which they find more effective...

That's my 2 cents.

```
73. de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ *****
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam

```

---

### 153. [BBSSIG:1727] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 17:39:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508282239.RAA23733@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

On Aug 27, 11:26am, Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1720] WP Updates  
> I received a message from N5MT0 the BBS to my west, his message stated that  
> a station to the west of him had requested that he stop sending WP Updates.  
> My WP messages are sent to N6IYA. I would like to hear from John N6IYA  
> before I stop sending the messages.

Yes, John is still running the WP server, and upgraded the computer  
that runs it some time ago to be able to handle the larger number  
of updates and queries now arriving at his system.

This is another one of those policy issues.

If we want to have a database of packet users, there needs to be  
a single source for that data. For the database to be useful, data  
about ALL users must flow eventually to a master database.

Perhaps this forum could address the issue?

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.U.SA.NOAM

---

### 154. [BBSSIG:1728] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 17:40:10 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508282240.RAA23753@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

On Aug 28, 8:59am, Karl F. Larsen wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1723] Re: WP Updates  
> On Sun, 27 Aug 1995, Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY wrote:  
>  
> > I received a message from N5MT0 the BBS to my west, his message stated that  
> > a station to the west of him had requested that he stop sending WP Updates.  
> > My WP messages are sent to N6IYA. I would like to hear from John N6IYA  
> > before I stop sending the messages.  
> >  
>  
>        Travis and other BBS sysops. It is not necessary to send your bbs  
> White Pages (WP) updates to the Master WP update holder n6iya. It is only  
> important that you send them to the nearest bbs you forward with that is  
> on the route to n6iya.

This is exactly correct. In the case of my code, every incoming WP  
update is simply merged into the local database, and a combined update  
is generated and sent to the next system up the line toward n6iya.

e.g. I get updates from 8 or 10 local systems "downstream" from my system, but only generate one update to the system "upstream" from me (wa7sjn, who forwards directly to n6iya). I also get between 10 and 100 updates that arrive via CLOVER ... but my system only generates one update each day.

Were the other bbs authors to implement "WP update caching", the number of WP updates flowing through the network would drop by perhaps a factor of ten.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

### 155. [BBSSIG:1731] RE: more @ww (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 17:48:32 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508282248.RAA23894@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>  
Subject: RE: more @ww

Barry...

Your posting hit it right on the head. What we need is more reasoned discussion and input like this and less "heart-on-the sleeve" commentary. Resolve these issues, and the others will take care of themselves. Keep up the good work!

73, Ed

---

### 156. [BBSSIG:1724] Re: more @ww (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 17:59:05 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508282259.RAA24121@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
> Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
> Subject: Re: more @ww  
> ...Barry's comments  
  
> > Users  
> > volumes of @US and @WW. In fact, they complain about low quality  
> > and large quantities.  
>  
> Group, who writes these low value bulletins? Why it's the Users!  
> They write this stuff that other users find of "low value". Many that  
> come from @WW use poor English. This is often because it's their second  
> or THIRD language! How many of us here in the USA could write as well in  
> German?  
>  
Karl, I didn't make any comment on English skills and I don't believe any one else did either. My comment was related to the @WW content not being of interest/applicability.  
>  
> > BBS SYSOPs  
> > Clearly, we are divided on the "value" of bulletins. Each of us  
> > perceives our responsibilities to be slightly different.  
> >  
> Every bbs sysop has his/her own view on what is good and bad  
> about what we are doing. They are independant, as I am, and do what they  
> think is right.  
>  
I agree.  
  
> What we bbs sysops CAN do is:  
>  
> 3. Change the distribution of the user's message to fit the current  
> conditions, ie: Make SALE@USA SALE@ALLNM when the item for sale is a 70  
> foot tower.  
>

NO WAIT - CHANGE A MSG WITHOUT THE USERS PERMISSION. KARL HOW COULD YOU!!!  
I think you violated the user's copyright! (-)

> 4. Make a few errors and answer the user(s) complaints. They AND you will  
> learn and the quality of bulletins will improve.  
>

>  
> If multicast is as complex as that used with FBB then it will not  
> be popular. We sysops seem to be the only ones getting it up and working...  
>  
FBB doesn't do Multicast.  
Not sure what you are refering to.

---

### 157. [BBSSIG:1731] RE: more @ww (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 18:02:43 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508282302.SAA24197@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Sender: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>  
> Subject: RE: more @ww  
>  
> Barry...  
>  
> Your posting hit it right on the head. What we need is more reasoned  
> discussion and input like this and less "heart-on-the sleeve" commentary.  
> Resolve these issues, and the others will take care of themselves. Keep  
> up the good work!  
>  
> 73, Ed  
>

I get so many like this its hard to keep track of them all.  
Thanks, Barry

---

### 158. [BBSSIG:1740] Re: Improving The Network (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 28 Aug 1995 22:09:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508290309.WAA26483@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: Improving The Network

On Aug 28, 5:51pm, MR RODNEY G FOWLER wrote:  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1733] Improving The Network  
> In one of Hanks recent epistles he mentions the fact that our  
> focus should be on the betterment of forwarding via the network  
> or taking steps to improve upon it. (Or words to that effect)  
>  
> If you look around you and especially on the backbone networks,  
> what do you find, the first thing I found was BBS after BBS  
> forwarding bulletins in the NON-COMPRESSED mode. This is  
> ridiculous to my way of thinking. When I can forward bulletins  
> and mail at 35-45% of the original size and in BATCHES of 10-25  
> bulletins at a whack, it doesn't take very long to move several  
> hundred bulletins.  
>  
> But, what do we have out there, I am a small time operator but  
> here is what I see..  
>  
> PRMBS - Supports RLI Compression (LZH)  
> MSYS - Supports both RLI and FBB type Compression.  
> FBB - Supports it own type of compression  
> CBBS - By K3RLI - NO COMPRESSSION  
> C-BBS - By W0RLI supports his own compression (LZH)

CBBS is the code I put into the public domain six years ago.  
A bit confusing to call my current product C-BBS, since it  
is not derived from the public domain code, but is a different  
implementation from the ground up.  
Normally I just call it "MailBox" ... but that was what the  
original CP/M version was called also ...

> AA4RE - As far as I know it supports NO COMPRESSION

> .etc - How many other BBS programs are there out there?

Here are a few more that I know are in use:

WinLink - No compression at present, X batch planned for next major update.  
GTEPMS - I think it has both X batch and FBB compression.  
JNOS - Has FBB, would be trivial to add X batch.  
WNOS - Status unknown.  
TNOS - Status unknown.  
TheBox - Status unknown.  
CBBS - Atari ST version, status unknown.  
CBBS - Amiga version, supports both (?).  
CBBS - BSD 4.x version, status unknown, possibly extinct.

Perhaps the authors can comment directly on the status of their products ...

... Hank

<deletia>

--

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Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

## 159. [BBSSIG:1742] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 11:24:20 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508291624.LAA01965@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

Karl, K5DI, wrote:

> Travis and other BBS sysops. It is not necessary to send your bbs  
> White Pages (WP) updates to the Master WP update holder n6iya. It is >only  
important that you send them to the nearest bbs you forward with >that is on  
the route to n6iya.

Not necessarily! It depends on what software the next BBS in line is  
running. I run FBB, and I know that it does NOT resend any information  
it receives from incoming updates. The incoming updates only add  
information to the local WP database. The next WP Update that is sent  
out DOES NOT contain any of that information unless the local WP has  
picked up the information from message headers, user input or sysop update.  
If the next BBS in line is an FBB system, don't address your  
WP update @ that BBS or your information won't get any further than  
your neighbor.

AA4RE BBS software uses a completely different type system (WPAGE) and  
WP Updates mean nothing to it. I don't know about MSYS, CBBS, or N0ARY,  
but as far as I know the RLI software is the only one that will pass  
along information from incoming updates.

73, Larry, WB9LOZ  
Packet: WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
E-mail: lkenney@slip.net

---

## 160. [BBSSIG:1743] Re: Improving The Network (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 11:25:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508291625.LAA01977@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Subject: Re: Improving The Network

> Here are a few more that I know are in use:

>

> TNOS - Status unknown.

>

> Perhaps the authors can comment directly on the status of their products ...

Has FBB-style compressed forwarding, and I am considering X batch for a future release.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 161. [BBSSIG:1729] Re: 2 kinds of problems (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <[barry@ia.net](mailto:barry@ia.net)>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 11:26:39 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199508291626.LAA01988@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: [n5pvl@texoma.com](mailto:n5pvl@texoma.com) (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: 2 kinds of problems

According to Barry...

>  
>The second area of discussion is somewhat less well defined. If I may  
>summarize, the problem is with the network and a related issue that  
>hams may not be particularly well suited to running one.  
>

Let's see.. You feel that hams may not be well suited to running a network  
( despite the fact that they've been doing it just fine for years. )

Are you suggesting that hams should "let" some other group run our network  
for us? If not, what ARE you suggesting here?

>The objective of sysops in most networks is conformity with specifications  
>and a unity of purpose. IMHO, the sysops are generally concerned with  
>local and user issues and less concerned/ignorant of network issues.  
>

This, if true, probably is a reflection of things as they may stand in your  
locale only. I know it doesn't reflect the reality of BBS operation in most  
of Texas, where BBS SYSOPs are generally both concerned about and  
knowledgeable of network issues.

In other words; If everyone in your immediate neighborhood rubs blue mud in  
their navels, that is only a good indicator of a small, localized area.  
Folks in different places will tend to do things differently. THAT is the  
one thing you can count on, when making sweeping generalizations.

>For example, what percentage of sysops in your area really understand  
>the network traffic patterns? Peak forwarding times, conflicts with  
>multiple fwds to a single BBS on a single frequency, bottle necks,  
>bad nodes, etc.  
>

All of the Texas SYSOPs I have discussed these issues with have shown a  
reasonable level of awareness. If this is not the case in your area, I would  
say that your fellow local SYSOPs need to be modified, not the network. A  
good start on this would be to get together every once in a while, and kick  
these issues around. Communicate. It's worked well here, and would probably  
do just as well in your area.

>My point is all this is that we have had good discussion on GUIs and  
>user needs. I hope we can find a core team and continue to develop  
>these thoughts into a good spec. However, we have had a number of  
>good comments made about network issues and I hope they have struck  
>a few nerves.  
>

Unless your core team is also going to write and distribute the software,  
there are probably better things to do with everyone's time.

The people who actually DO write the software we use are already aware of  
these issues, and will do - What they decide to do.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

There's just no substitute for looking at the facts.

---

## 162. [BBSSIG:1730] Re: more @ww (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 11:26:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508291626.LAA01995@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: more @ww

According to Barry...

>  
>The issue of bulletin content is not restricted to bbs SYSOPs.  
>Unfortunately, it falls to us to examine the issue and,  
>potentially, do something about it. As evidence of the scope of  
>this issue, let me comment on the impact of bulletin content as  
>it relates to other members of the packet community.  
>  
>Users  
>Many users, and I would suggest a majority, view a large portion  
>of the @US and @WW as having low value. This is obvious from the  
>fact that users read an extremely small amount of the huge  
>volumes of @US and @WW. In fact, they complain about low quality  
>and large quantities.  
>

Yes, we all know.. That user who only reads @ARRL will complain about everything else. The user who only cares about CQ @ WW thinks everything else is junk, and will complain about it. The user who only reads DEBATE bulletins hates SALE bulletins, ect, ect, ect....

The point is that if your panties get into a twist every time someone complains, you'll spend a lot of time with twisted panties.

Want to hear ALL the users complain? Start reducing their options.

>Node Operators  
>We are all concerned with RF links going away. The reasons they  
>are not being maintained varies, but one observation is that  
>nodes spend 99% of their transmitter key down time forwarding low  
>value bulletins. A large number of nodes are independently  
>operated. The node op has to believe in the value of his service  
>or be convinced by some logical discussion.

The best indicator that a node is useful is - Use. You seem to feel that node-ops are deeply concerned when their systems are heavily utilized. I'll suggest here that node ops experience REAL doubts of thier node's usefulness only when it sits idle for long periods of time. Think it through.

I'm a node-op; I oughta know.

>BBS SYSOPs  
>Clearly, we are divided on the "value" of bulletins. Each of us  
>perceives our responsibilities to be slightly different.  
>  
>Complicating this issue is the fact that each BBS is a local  
>resource and a small portion of the worldwide network. The  
>demands of these two aspects are not entirely clear to each SYSOP  
>and in fact appear to conflict. It is impossible to separate  
>these two operations. Maybe this should be changed.  
>

Actually, it's rather easy to separate the two functions, rather than being impossible. You CAN do what you WANT to do, but it requires some effort at times.

>Suggestions  
>  
>1. Multicast has to come to life soon. This will have several  
>effects:  
> + it will reduce the local network loading,  
> + using wide area coverage (40 or 6 mtrs) could reduce

> dependence on local nodes,  
> + improve delivery times for both P and B,  
> + form a more hierarchical network structure,  
> + allow demanding users to capture bulletins directly  
> and reduce local channel loading.  
>

I understand that these claims are associated ( by you ) with multicasting, but have yet to see enough evidence to back up these claims. It's important not to confuse enthusiastic idealism with realism. ALL FACTS surrounding the idea must be considered, not just those which fit in with it most comfortably.

>2. Independent of the content issue, the existing scheme needs  
>to change so we (Sysops) look more organized. Free form TO has  
>got to go and the example most users are familiar with is  
>newsgroups.

I don't see any compelling reason to impose limits on what hams may or may not do in this area. "Most hams" won't, either. Reducing the options and available level of service to packet ops is a no better reaction to the challenges we face in the packet network than the idea of giving up and putting most of our traffic on the telephone. The most appropriate response to the challenges we face in the packet network is to do as Amateur Radio Operators are expected to do in their "charter"..

Advance the art of ham radio. ADD to the network's abilities, rather than detract from it.

This involves time, money, brains, and effort. That's what works.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

There's just no substitute for looking at the facts.

---

### 163. [BBSSIG:1748] Re: Improving The Network (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 19:18:54 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508300018.TAA05915@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Peter Hardie <hardie@duke.usask.ca>  
Subject: Re: Improving The Network

On Mon, 28 Aug 1995, Hank Oredson wrote:  
> Here are a few more that I know are in use:  
>  
> CBBS - Amiga version, supports both (?).  
>  
> Perhaps the authors can comment directly on the status of their products ...

The Amiga version supports FBB compressed forwarding but not X forwarding  
- yet.

73 de Pete  
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

---

### 164. [BBSSIG:1749] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 19:19:14 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508300019.TAA05922@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Dean R Madsen <dmdasen@iastate.edu>  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

>Not necessarily! It depends on what software the next BBS in line is  
>running. I run FBB, and I know that it does NOT resend any information  
>it receives from incoming updates. The incoming updates only add  
>information to the local WP database. The next WP Update that is sent  
>out DOES NOT contain any of that information unless the local WP has  
>picked up the information from message headers, user input or sysop update.  
>If the next BBS in line is an FBB system, don't address your  
>WP update @ that BBS or your information won't get any further than  
>your neighbor.



>

Was the info in the WP Update you received newer than the info that was already in your FBB White Pages? FBB will not update its info unless it is newer than the existing WP info.

The WP system in FBB does have its "quirks", but it does work and will (eventually) include the info in its WP Updates.

You may want to consider replacing FBB's built in WP server with an external one written by a third party. The WP server replacement I wrote imports info from WP Updates through the undocumented FBB.WP file (the same file is also used to "queue" WP info from the R: lines until the program has time to process the info and add it to the WP.SYS).

>AA4RE BBS software uses a completely different type system (WPAGE) and >WP Updates mean nothing to it. I don't know about MSYS, CBBS, or N0ARY,

My server will accept the WP auto-updates that AA4RE sends out and add any useful data to the FBB white pages.

>but as far as I know the RLI software is the only one that will pass >along information from incoming updates.

FBB will too.

73,  
Dean - KE0WO

```
+++++
+ Dean R Madsen, KE0WO Computer Science Major +
+ Internet: dmadsen@iastate.edu Iowa State Univeristy +
+ ke0wo@iastate.edu Ames, Iowa +
+ AX25: KE0WO @ KE0WO.#NWIA.IA.USA.NA +
+ Secretary for the Tristate Amateur Packet Association +
+ Treasurer for the Cyclone Amateur Radio Club +
+++++
```

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## 165. [BBSSIG:1750] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 19:20:40 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508300020.TAA05934@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

On Tue, 29 Aug 1995, Larry Kenney wrote:

> Karl, K5DI, wrote:  
> > Travis and other BBS sysops. It is not necessary to send your bbs  
> > White Pages (WP) updates to the Master WP update holder n6iya. It is >only  
> > important that you send them to the nearest bbs you forward with >that is on  
> the route to n6iya.  
>  
> Not necessarily! It depends on what software the next BBS in line is  
> running. I run FBB, and I know that it does NOT resend any information  
> it receives from incoming updates.

Prey tell us how you "KNOW" this. I "KNOW" you are wrong because of a test I ran at least a year ago. I was sent a WP update from n5rg that included an update from zm6bl.jungle.juice in zombi,land and when I got it I watched and checked that it was taken by my WP database. The next time FBB dropped out and made a new WP update it contained zm6bl's information.

The incoming updates only add  
> information to the local WP database. The next WP Update that is sent  
> out DOES NOT contain any of that information unless the local WP has  
> picked up the information from message headers, user input or sysop update.  
> If the next BBS in line is an FBB system, don't address your  
> WP update @ that BBS or your information won't get any further than  
> your neighbor.  
>

> AA4RE BBS software uses a completely different type system (WPAGE) and  
> WP Updates mean nothing to it. I don't know about MSYS, CBBS, or N0ARY,  
> but as far as I know the RLI software is the only one that will pass  
> along information from incoming updates.  
>  
> 73, Larry, WB9LOZ  
> Packet: WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
> E-mail: lkenney@slip.net  
>  
>  
>  
>

Another check on all this Larry is the way all the guys in NM are in every bbs in the country that has WP. If my FBB that I have run for 2 years now cannot forward data from another WP update there would be NO stations in El Paso, TX or all of NM save Las Cruces where I live. Check your own bbs and see if you have any .nm or .tx from El Paso.

Larry you seem to run FBB. Please run my test with a forwarding bbs to you and prove your wrong to yourself.

73, de karl k5di

---

## 166. [BBSSIG:1751] Some "real data" (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 19:21:40 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508300021.TAA05946@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Some "real data"

I sure get tired of some things I read in this sig. They are supposed to be informed comments from SySop's that know their software. Instead I see people running FBB complaining that users can't find @ARRL messages from "all the trash". This is rubbish!

On FBB if you log on and NEVER want to see anything but @AR\* which includes @ARL and @ARRL, you can at your leasure, type

lc \*@AR\* <enter>

and then for the rest of your life log on and type L <enter> and the ONLY thing you will ever see is messages to yourself and to @ARL and @ARRL.

If you want to read all the stuff most of the time but ARRL stuff only at some time you can type

l@ AR\* <enter>

and it will list only the ones you are looking for.

Now if your only interested in buying something you can list most of the messages by typing

l> sale <enter>

Now all of this is from THIS SySop's memory. It may have an error but the message I think is clear, you can do all kinds of message filtering on almost ALL the packet bbs software.

So please think before saying a user is having a problem. It may be his problem is caused by a lack of information. SySop's are supposed to help stop this problem by education and help.

73, de karl k5di

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## 167. [BBSSIG:1752] Re: 2 kinds of problems (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 19:22:16 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508300022.TAA05953@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Subject: Re: 2 kinds of problems

On Aug 29, 11:39am, Charles Brabham wrote:

<deletia>

> The people who actually DO write the software we use are already aware of  
> these issues, and will do - What they decide to do.

You got it exactly right ... at least in my case, and I know that several of the other authors think the same way. This is a hobby, and I pretty much do whatever sounds like fun. That said, it is still true that I get my ideas from (in order of importance)  
1) Users of the local network; 2) Users in other parts of the network; 3) newsgroup and SIG discussions. By "users" I mean "those who use my code either as sysop or end user".

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com              "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.U.S.A.NOAM

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## 168. [BBSSIG:1753] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 19:22:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508300022.TAA05960@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: N5IST@aol.com  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

In a message dated 95-08-29 12:43:10 EDT, you write:

>Karl, K5DI, wrote:  
>>        Travis and other BBS sysops. It is not necessary to send your bbs  
>> White Pages (WP) updates to the Master WP update holder n6iya. It is >only  
>>important that you send them to the nearest bbs you forward with >that is  
on  
>>the route to n6iya.

From: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)

>Not necessarily! It depends on what software the next BBS in line is  
>running. I run FBB, and I know that it does NOT resend any information  
>it receives from incoming updates. The incoming updates only add  
>information to the local WP database. The next WP Update that is sent  
>out DOES NOT contain any of that information unless the local WP has  
>picked up the information from message headers, user input or sysop update.  
>If the next BBS in line is an FBB system, don't address your  
>WP update @ that BBS or your information won't get any further than  
>your neighbor.

N5IST wrote:

Hi Gang:

It has been my experience that FBB will send an update to received data when  
THAT DATA IS DIFFERENT FROM THE DATA ALREADY STORED IN THE WP DATABASE.  
This should prevent dupes of data that has already been sent on in previous  
WP messages.  
Also, this update is not sent until X number of days. This is sysop  
controlled. I think the idea  
here is to allow a user to connect to other systems while on vacation, etc.  
and not have the  
WP databases update his home bbs to the one he connected to while in transit.  
I think the  
FBB default delay is either 7 or 14 days before the new data is shown to be  
permanent data.

To reduce these WP messages to the minimum required, I recommend sysops do  
the following.  
Watch for WP update messages that are forwarding through your system towards  
N6IYA. Send

a message to that bbs sysop recommending that he change that addressing to your bbs to allow your system to ingest the data and to forward this data on towards N6IYA.

Does anybody know the traffic load N6IYA is experiencing with WP updates? This could be reduced by much more than a factor of ten for his system and the systems neighboring him.

73,  
Wade  
New E-mail: n5ist@ix.netcom.com

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## 169. [BBSSIG:1760] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 29 Aug 1995 22:24:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508300324.WAA06802@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

Second try on this...two messages to bbssig bounced tonight.

>I received a message from N5MT0 the BBS to my west, his message stated that  
>a station to the west of him had requested that he stop sending WP Updates.  
>My WP messages are sent to N6IYA. I would like to hear from John N6IYA  
>before I stop sending the messages.  
>  
> 73 De Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY / Prescott AR 71857-2505

For what it's worth, Travis, around here, we have quit sending things that far. There just isn't any reason to. What we do is send it to a fairly large regional station. He, in turn sends it higher. I'm running FBB here, and have mine setup with software that will take the information from any incoming wp message and include it in my outgoing wp, killing the original, and also updating my wp. The consolidated message then goes to the next higher level, etc., etc. I am not sure, but I think I read recently that N6IYA was no longer accepting them, so I don't know where our regional station sends them. My apologies if that part is not correct. Anyway, I guess the moto here is "pass it along, but don't send each one to some far away place".

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

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## 170. [BBSSIG:1761] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 30 Aug 1995 09:02:44 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508301402.JAA11165@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

>Karl, K5DI, wrote:  
>> Travis and other BBS sysops. It is not necessary to send your bbs  
>> White Pages (WP) updates to the Master WP update holder n6iya. It is >only  
>important that you send them to the nearest bbs you forward with >that is on  
>the route to n6iya.  
>  
>Not necessarily! It depends on what software the next BBS in line is  
>running. I run FBB, and I know that it does NOT resend any information  
>it receives from incoming updates.

Check with Dean, KE0W0. I'm running some of his programs and I know that one of the built-in features of one of them is reading incoming wp messages and "absorbing" them into my wp, and then one wp update is sent out per day

from here. I'm sorry I can't be more specific. I'm trying to do this without direct access to my board right now. The program also is told how long (max) to make each wp message, so that extremely long ones are not generated. They are broken into multiple messages if they exceed the configured amount.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

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## 171. [BBSSIG:1764] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 30 Aug 1995 09:04:12 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508301404.JAA11178@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

In response to my message, Karl, K5DI, wrote:

> Prey tell us how you "KNOW" this. I "KNOW" you are wrong because  
>of a test I ran at least a year ago. I was sent a WP update from n5rg  
>that included an update from zm6bl.jungle.juice in zombi,land and when I  
>got it I watched and checked that it was taken by my WP database. The  
>next time FBB dropped out and made a new WP update it contained zm6bl's  
>information.

How do I know it doesn't work? We tested it. When I switched from the RLI software to FBB a couple of years ago (to be compatible with other surrounding BBSs for forwarding), we found several instances where user entries (/U) contained in incoming WP updates from other BBSs were NOT being sent out in the next update from my BBS. We ran several tests over a period of a couple of weeks. How many entries did you check on, Karl? I hope it was more than just that one from N5RG!

Perhaps FBB WP does work in a delayed fashion as explained by these other writers.

Dean, KE6WO, wrote:

>Was the info in the WP Update you received newer than the info that was  
>already in your FBB White Pages? FBB will not update its info unless it  
>is newer than the existing WP info.

Wade, N5IST, wrote:

> It has been my experience that FBB will send an update to received  
>data when THAT DATA IS DIFFERENT FROM THE DATA ALREADY STORED IN THE  
>WP DATABASE. This should prevent dupes of data that has already been >sent  
on in previous WP messages. Also, this update is not sent until  
>X number of days. This is sysop controlled. I think the idea here is  
>to allow a user to connect to other systems while on vacation, etc.  
>and not have the WP databases update his home bbs to the one he  
>connected to while in transit.

Perhaps if I waited for the "X number of days" (which I have set to 21 here) I'd find that the incoming information would eventually be included in my updates, I don't know. I didn't wait that long. All I know is, FBB doesn't work like Hank's software where everything that's received is sent out in your next update.

Gary, AG0N, wrote:

>I'm running FBB here, and have mine setup with software that will take  
>the information from any incoming wp message and include it in my >outgoing  
wp, killing the original, and also updating my wp. The >consolidated  
message then goes to the next higher level, etc., etc

That's the way Hank's software works. Are you using a special server, Gary? Maybe you're using the one that Dean has written?!?

(See BBSSIG:1755, 1759 and 1762 for more from Dean, Wade and Gary.)

Here in Northern CA, we all send our updates to the WA6AE0 BBS, our regional WP server, which runs Hank's code specifically to handle WP. In turn, WA6AE0 sends his updates to WP @ NCWP which are distributed to all BBSs in the area. N6IYA receives a copy of this update, too, to update the National server. This arrangement keeps all of our WP databases updated with user information from the other Northern CA systems.

Wade asked about the number of updates going to N6IYA and Gary, AG0N, commented that he didn't think N6IYA was accepting updates. Since my BBS forwards directly to N6IYA, I can report that he is still the National WP Server, still accepts WP Updates, and also responds to several queries a day. I've seen over 100 updates for N6IYA go through here in one day, and I'm just one of several BBSs that forward to him. He receives A LOT of updates on a daily basis.

73, Larry, WB9LOZ  
Packet: WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
E-mail: lkenney@slip.net

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## 172. [BBSSIG:1768] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 30 Aug 1995 21:31:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508310231.VAA15586@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

On Wed, 30 Aug 1995, Larry Kenney wrote:

> In response to my message, Karl, K5DI, wrote:  
> > Prey tell us how you "KNOW" this. I "KNOW" you are wrong because  
> >of a test I ran at least a year ago. I was sent a WP update from n5rg  
> >that included an update from zm6bl.jungle.juice in zombi,land and when I  
> >got it I watched and checked that it was taken by my WP database. The  
> >next time FBB dropped out and made a new WP update it contained zm6bl's  
> >information.  
>  
> How do I know it doesn't work? We tested it. When I switched from  
> the RLI software to FBB a couple of years ago (to be compatible with  
> other surrounding BBSs for forwarding), we found several instances  
> where user entries (/U) contained in incoming WP updates from other  
> BBSs were NOT being sent out in the next update from my BBS. We ran several  
> tests over a period of a couple of weeks. How many entries  
> did you check on, Karl? I hope it was more than just that one from  
> N5RG!

Larry you simply do not understand the test with N5RG. It was a real test of a new WP address sent to my bbs. Since it was new it went out on my very NEXT WP update to all the bbs I forward to EXCEPT N5RG.

>  
> Perhaps FBB WP does work in a delayed fashion as explained by these  
> other writers.  
>  
> Dean, KE6W0, wrote:  
> >Was the info in the WP Update you received newer than the info that was  
> >already in your FBB White Pages? FBB will not update its info unless it  
> >is newer than the existing WP info.

Dean just said it will not update data it already has. No news here.

>  
> Wade, N5IST, wrote:  
> > It has been my experience that FBB will send an update to received  
> >data when THAT DATA IS DIFFERENT FROM THE DATA ALREADY STORED IN THE  
> >WP DATABASE. This should prevent dupes of data that has already been >sent  
> >on in previous WP messages. Also, this update is not sent until  
> >X number of days. This is sysop controlled. I think the idea here is  
> >to allow a user to connect to other systems while on vacation, etc.  
> >and not have the WP databases update his home bbs to the one he  
> >connected to while in transit.

Wade points out it works too good. A vacation ham checks into a new pbbs and WP switches his packet address to the new pbbs. This happens and I know Wade uses FBB.

>  
> Perhaps if I waited for the "X number of days" (which I have set to  
> 21 here) I'd find that the incoming information would eventually be included  
> in my updates, I don't know. I didn't wait that long. All

> I know is, FBB doesn't work like Hank's software where everything  
> that's received is sent out in your next update.  
>

For heaven's sake Larry, if YOU set up FBB to send updates only  
every 21 days, you will need to wait 21 days!!!!

> Gary, AG0N, wrote:  
> >I'm running FBB here, and have mine setup with software that will take  
> >the information from any incoming wp message and include it in my >outgoing  
> wp, killing the original, and also updating my wp. The >consolidated  
> message then goes to the next higher level, etc., etc  
>  
> That's the way Hank's software works. Are you using a special server, Gary?  
> Maybe you're using the one that Dean has written?!?  
>  
> (See BBSSIG:1755, 1759 and 1762 for more from Dean, Wade and Gary.)  
>  
> Here in Northern CA, we all send our updates to the WA6AEO BBS, our  
> regional WP server, which runs Hank's code specifically to handle WP.  
> In turn, WA6AEO sends his updates to WP @ NCWP which are distributed  
> to all BBSs in the area. N6IYA receives a copy of this update, too,  
> to update the National server. This arrangement keeps all of our WP  
> databases updated with user information from the other Northern CA systems.

Larry my point is WA6AEO doesn't need to run the W0RLI software  
just so he has a WP server. Larry read your printed out manual for FBB in  
the section called "WP Server". It explains in English how this server  
works. It says it is compatible with Hank's software. It is.

>  
> Wade asked about the number of updates going to N6IYA and Gary, AG0N,  
> commented that he didn't think N6IYA was accepting updates. Since my  
> BBS forwards directly to N6IYA, I can report that he is still the  
> National WP Server, still accepts WP Updates, and also responds to  
> several queries a day. I've seen over 100 updates for N6IYA go  
> through here in one day, and I'm just one of several BBSs that  
> forward to him. He receives A LOT of updates on a daily basis.  
>  
> 73, Larry, WB9LOZ  
> Packet: WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
> E-mail: lkenney@slip.net  
>  
>

It's possible you don't understand Larry since you forward direct  
to N6IYA. 99% of the packet bbs sysops can't do that. We must use  
regional WP servers who do exactly as I explained and Hank explained and  
you can use the FBB software.

It's possible to not set up WP on FBB. In fact you must have high  
memory to use it if your using version 5.15c. The init.srv file in your  
/fbb directory must have the WP line turned on.

>  
>  
73, de karl k5di

---

## 173. [BBSSIG:1769] Re: Some "real data" (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 30 Aug 1995 21:32:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508310232.VAA15599@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Some "real data"

On Tue, 29 Aug 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> be his problem is caused by a lack of information. SysOp's are supposed  
> to help stop this problem by education and help.  
> 73, de karl k5di

Just a note to you Karl, I re-edited the User Documentation that you  
wrote for W0RLI 18.5. I just changed from CBBS to W0RLI Sunday, and I

needed to make minor changes to the file so my users can download it.

I'm also going to print it out and mail it to the users that request it. So far, all problems that my users had were answered once they read the new user doc... I find this very interesting, and helpful to do. I'll repost this newer version to this group for everyone approval before I print it and mail it out.

My point being this: Many problems can be avoided if you educate your users. If the problems persist, read the documentation... I've found that I've become a better USER after I became a SYSOP. Why? Because I read the documentation, and tried to help others. You learn alot that way.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wlarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlarn/ *****
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

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## 174. [BBSSIG:1770] Re: WP Updates (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 30 Aug 1995 21:33:56 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199508310233.VAA15607@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: WP Updates

>Gary, AG0N, wrote:

>>I'm running FBB here, and have mine setup with software that will take  
>>the information from any incoming wp message and include it in my >outgoing  
>wp, killing the original, and also updating my wp. The >consolidated  
>message then goes to the next higher level, etc., etc  
>

>That's the way Hank's software works. Are you using a special server, Gary?  
>Maybe you're using the one that Dean has written?!

Yes, it is from KE0WO.

>Wade asked about the number of updates going to N6IYA and Gary, AG0N,  
>commented that he didn't think N6IYA was accepting updates. Since my  
>BBS forwards directly to N6IYA, I can report that he is still the  
>National WP Server, still accepts WP Updates, and also responds to  
>several queries a day. I've seen over 100 updates for N6IYA go  
>through here in one day, and I'm just one of several BBSs that  
>forward to him. He receives A LOT of updates on a daily basis.

Duly noted. As I said at the time, I wasn't sure about that comment.

Further comments on deleted portions...

I suspect you just didn't wait long enough, as you said. There are two parameters that control it, as I remember. One controls how long FBB waits before it considers the new information valid. Mine is set at about 30 days, as I remember. That information can be checked, if I recall correctly, by doing an IE command. Yes, I just tried it. IE CALLSIGN will show you what is in the wp for that callsign. It has two lines. One is the currently accepted listing and the other is any changed info that is waiting out the validation period. I think the way it works is, if it keeps receiving messages with the new listing (2) in the R: line, it keeps the updated version. At the end of the validation period, the information is moved into the number (1) line. All this can be done manually too, as you will see when you do the IE command. This is all pretty vague and I'm open for any correction by someone who really understands the wp thing in FBB. The second parameter controls how long before information is purged from the system if no traffic passes containing a certain callsign in the R: line. Mine is set at a year, or is it 6 months? Anyway, you get the idea.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM



# September 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9509

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9509](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9509)

## 1. [BBSSIG:1774] Re: Improving The Network (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 1 Sep 1995 20:21:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509020121.UAA11056@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: birdman@exit109.com (John)  
Subject: Re: Improving The Network

>Here are a few more that I know are in use:  
>  
>WinLink - No compression at present, X batch planned for next major update.  
>GTEPMS - I think it has both X batch and FBB compression.  
>JNOS - Has FBB, would be trivial to add X batch.  
>WNOS - Status unknown.  
>TNOS - Status unknown.  
>TheBox - Status unknown.  
>CBBS - Atari ST version, status unknown.  
>CBBS - Amiga version, supports both (?).  
>CBBS - BSD 4.x version, status unknown, possibly extinct.  
>  
>Perhaps the authors can comment directly on the status of their products ...  
>  
> ... Hank

Hank... Do you or does anyone else know where I can get a copy of GTEPMS  
???????????????

73, John  
WT3V @ WT3V.NJ.USA.NOAM

---

## 2. [BBSSIG:1775] Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 1 Sep 1995 20:25:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509020125.UAA11063@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Windows 95

This message is being sent from Win 95 bought today and installed  
with little trouble. ALL the things running under Win 3.1 run now to  
include FBB JNOS Telephone BBS and the BPQ Switch which is a TSR!

So whatever you hear about Win 95 remember it works here Great!

-karl

---

## 3. [BBSSIG:1778] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 2 Sep 1995 09:17:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509021417.JAA15544@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

> This message is being sent from Win 95 bought today and installed  
>with little trouble. ALL the things running under Win 3.1 run now to  
>include FBB JNOS Telephone BBS and the BPQ Switch which is a TSR!  
>  
> So whatever you hear about Win 95 remember it works here Great!  
>  
>-karl  
>  
>  
Well Karl, just the opposite here. I've had a Beta version on a spare PC for

the past few months and although I didnt test everything it did install and run fine.

So I bought the new Release and the I was in for trouble from day one. No-end of problems.(too many to list). After two long days of hair-pulling still no-go. Tonight I found the win95.setup newsgroup and see its getting abt 1000 msg per day. Many reporting all sorts of install problems such as I have run into. This is a bit too off-topic to go on about but I do see that some installations work great first time and others are a royal pain. Many of the hints/clues to getting things going are contained in the .txt files included. Unfortunately they are compressed, but well worth the trouble to uncompress and read throughly.  
73 - Ron

>

---

#### 4. [BBSSIG:1780] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 2 Sep 1995 10:03:43 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509021503.KAA15667@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

On Fri, 1 Sep 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> So whatever you hear about Win 95 remember it works here Great!

I have the beta a home, and I'm going to buy the regular release soon, but I found everything ran fine, except desqview.

It ran, but performance was poor on my 486 sx 25. So I have mine booting to Win 95 dos. This way, I can load my RLI batch file, or win 95.

I'm happy with it too, and I really don't like windows, until now.

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \* Bloomsburg University \*  
\* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu \* Bloomsburg, Pa \*  
\* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ \*\*\*\*\*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

#### 5. [BBSSIG:1782] GTEPMS Info (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 2 Sep 1995 12:38:12 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509021738.MAA00454@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: GTEPMS Info

John, WT3V asked about how to find a copy of GTEPMS...

The GENERAL STORE BBS, (410) 987-3542 is the only place I know of which has the latest version of GTEPMS. If you have no luck there, contact me and I'll dig it up from my archives here.

To my knowlege, there has been no upgrades or development of GTEPMS for a couple of years now. PLEASE correct me if I'm wrong!

GTEPMS runs requires DesqView and BPQ to run, and a 386 with 2MB is the minimum computer for it. I ran it fine in a 16 MHZ 386sx, with 5 MB RAM, and a mono VGA monitor..

The program is interesting for several reasons. One is it's relationship with DesqView. GTEPMS takes "control" of DV, opening and closing DV windows as needed for it's operation. For example: Each connectee gets his own DV window, and the FBB compression/decompression software does the same. In fact, only three rather small (RAM-wise) DV windows stay "open" all the time, and everything else just comes and goes as needed.

All DV friendly software for BPQ and several of the support programs for W0RLI work fine with GTEPMS, since it's a DesqView-based program as well. There is also a connections stats program made for GTEPMS which has to be seen to be believed, it's so far ahead of anything else available for this purpose.

Another interesting aspect of GTEPMS is it's special version of NOS which can be run as an option. The AX25 BBS and the NOS program swap messages, ect. The NOS runs in a "permanent" DV window.

I experimented with GTEPMS for a few months, and found it to be generally acceptable. FBB style compressed forwarding was flawless. One problem I encountered was in controlling the size of the message database. There is literally no way for the SYSOP to manually kill all forwarded messages, for example. I sometimes "clean house" this way, if I'm preparing to run a hard-drive defrag program, and missed the ability to do this with GTEPMS.

GTEPMS was written by N2GTE, who lives in Maryland. Again, if anyone has more up-to-date info on this program, I would appreciate it. As a side-hobby, I set up and operate ALL of the BBS programs I can get my mitts on, so as to compare ease of setup, function, ect.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Cole's Law: Finely chopped cabbage.

---

## 6. [BBSSIG:1784] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 2 Sep 1995 23:32:14 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509030432.XAA02581@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

On Sat, 2 Sep 1995, Ron VE1AIC wrote:

```
> > This message is being sent from Win 95 bought today and installed
> >with little trouble. ALL the things running under Win 3.1 run now to
> >include FBB JNOS Telephone BBS and the BPQ Switch which is a tsr!
> >
> > So whatever you hear about Win 95 remember it works here Great!
> >
> >-karl
> >
> >
> Well Karl, just the opposite here. I've had a Beta version on a spare PC for
> the past few months and although I didnt test everything it did install and
> run fine.
>
> So I bought the new Release and the I was in for trouble from day one.
```

Sorry to hear that Ron. I wonder what was changed?

```
> No-end of problems.(too many to list).
> After two long days of hair-pulling still no-go. Tonight I found the win95.setup
> newsgroup and see its getting abt 1000 msg per day. Many reporting all sorts
> of install problems such as I have run into. This is a bit too off-topic to
> go on
> about but I do see that some installations work great first time and others are
> a royal pain.
```

Well 1000 messages a day spells trouble. I was totally unable to load OS/2 on this IBM MADE computer, so I expected problems but was surprised.

```
> Many of the hints/clues to getting things going are contained in the .txt
> files included.
> Unfortunately they are compressed, but well worth the trouble to uncompress
> and read
```

> thoroughly.  
> 73 - Ron  
>  
True. I read setup.txt on disk 1 and it told me how to increase  
my drive I size a bit.

Today I connected to the MS internet server. I was asked 2  
gillion questions and then automatically switched to my local internet  
number which has a baud rate of 2400 bit/sec! When your paying \$2.50/hr  
for a service, you don't want a slooow modem...:)

73, de karl k5di

> >  
>  
>  
>  
>

---

## 7. [BBSSIG:1786] Re: GTEPMS Info (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 3 Sep 1995 11:49:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509031649.LAA07138@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: birdman@exit109.com (John)  
Subject: Re: GTEPMS Info

> John, WT3V asked about how to find a copy of GTEPMS...  
>  
> The GENERAL STORE BBS, (410) 987-3542 is the only place I know of which  
> has the latest version of GTEPMS. If you have no luck there, contact me and  
> I'll dig it up from my archives here.  
>

Well, I called the above number and the BBS is closed! According to a  
message that came up when I connected,  
someone uploaded a program with a virus and the sysop CLOSED the bbs. This  
really is a shame that it had to happen.... I wish it still was open.

So, I am still looking for GTEPMS.... can you help me get the program?

73, John WT3V

---

## 8. [BBSSIG:1788] GTEPMS (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 3 Sep 1995 22:06:06 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509040306.WAA09698@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Peter Hardie <hardie@duke.usask.ca>  
Subject: GTEPMS

Sorry, to post this here. I didn't save the address of whoever was asking  
about obtaining GTEPMS. I did an archie search and here's the edited list  
of sites which have it available via anonymous FTP.

Pete  
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

Host ftp.adelaide.edu.au

Location: /pub/ka9q/gtepms

|      |            |        |             |                 |
|------|------------|--------|-------------|-----------------|
| FILE | -r--r--r-- | 34481  | Mar 21 1991 | gtepms.doc.Z    |
| FILE | -r--r--r-- | 163    | Nov 28 1992 | gtepms161.txt.Z |
| FILE | -r--r--r-- | 823782 | Nov 28 1992 | gtepms161.zip   |

Host ftp.une.edu.au

Location: /pub/ham-radio/ucsd/hamradio/packet/tcpip/gtepms

|      |            |        |             |               |
|------|------------|--------|-------------|---------------|
| FILE | -r--r--r-- | 75148  | Mar 21 1991 | gtepms.doc    |
| FILE | -r--r--r-- | 186    | Nov 29 1992 | gtepms161.txt |
| FILE | -r--r--r-- | 823782 | Nov 29 1992 | gtepms161.zip |

Host nic.switch.ch

Location: /mirror/ucsd/packet/tcpip/gtepms

|      |            |        |             |               |
|------|------------|--------|-------------|---------------|
| FILE | -rw-rw-r-- | 75148  | Mar 21 1991 | gtepms.doc    |
| FILE | -rw-rw-r-- | 186    | Nov 30 1992 | gtepms161.txt |
| FILE | -rw-rw-r-- | 823782 | Nov 30 1992 | gtepms161.zip |

---

## 9. [BBSSIG:1789] Need help with LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 3 Sep 1995 22:07:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509040307.WAA09717@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Need help with LSERV

I have just obtained LSERV 1.06 from Dan, N7MRP. I'm having nothing but trouble with it. Since I have put it on two computers and have the same trouble with both, I can only assume I have it setup wrong. I know others are running it, so I'm assuming it isn't a problem with the program.

It is installed "by the book", with all files in the \FBB directory. I have created the default \FBB\USERS\ARCHIVES.LSR\ directory, as shown in the cfg file. I have also modified the init.srv file as per instructions. In addition to the LSERV LSERV line, I have included a FOOBAR LSERV line to use as a test list after installation.

If I, or anyone else, originates a message to LSERV and subscribes to FOOBAR, it seems to do as expected. It sends a reply to the subscriber, starts the list, and informs me of the new subscriber with a message. As part of the test, I also subscribe to the list. FOOBAR.USR appears in the FBB directory, with both callsigns in it.

The problem comes when someone sends a message to the list. If I (at the console, OR coming in on a port like a user), or the subscribed user sends a message to FOOBAR, the computer locks up as soon as the control-z or /ex is received. To further complicate things, when I reboot, it locks up again when it tries to import some of the messages generated by the incoming FOOBAR message. I have to delete the mail.in and server.in files to get it back up. Actually, I haven't checked to see if one of them could be left, I've just dumped them both. It seems to be really messy.

Does anyone recognize all this behavior? I would like to get this resolved and get the server up and running. Feel free to reply direct, if you wish. When an answer is found, I'll gladly post a cure for all to read, even if it really is my blunder. As far as I know, I've done it, as I said earlier, by the book.

Thanks for any help received (I HOPE!).

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 10. [BBSSIG:1790] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 3 Sep 1995 22:07:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509040307.WAA09732@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

For anyone who wonders about the problems (or lack of) in Win95 just checkout the newsgroup :  
comp.os.ms-windows.win95.setup  
Its VERY active.  
Another indicator is the newsgroup:  
alt.os.windows95.crash.crash.crash  
(no kidding)

73 - Ron VE1AIC  
(one of the un-lucky ones)

## 11. [BBSSIG:1794] Windows 95 \*SUCCESS AT LAST\* (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 4 Sep 1995 11:01:58 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509041601.LAA14787@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Windows 95 \*SUCCESS AT LAST\*

Well after 3 long nights of slugging away at Win95 I've finally made it. Thanks to all the hints & comments from Win95 newsgroups and Microsoft notes. (You know the help .txt files that are compressed on the disk and not included in the "manual".)

I had thought it was going to be an easy install since I had no trouble with the Beta version. Instead I ran into loads of problems (no pun) right from the start.

The problems seem to be caused by the installation routines of Win95 which give your machine a very heavy workout and some setups just cant handle that or are not compatable enough.

In my case it was the External Cache in my motherboard. I got "fatal exception" errors and other weird things to numerous to mention until I turned off the cache in my Bois setup.

The interesting thing is that this was only a problem \*during\* the installation. Once I had Win95 up and running I could turn the cache back on, thank goodness too because it was very slow without it.

So I say to anyone still fighting to get Win95 installed, keep trying, trying all the hints you've heard about. The best news is that after you are installed it seems very stable and if you do give up, you'll be glad to know that the Uninstall usually does a good job of returning everything back to "normal" Windows.

Here are highlightes of some hints to try during install:

1. Turn off Virus checking in Bois and disk. (This you \*must\* do)
2. REM out calls to almost everything in Autoexec.bat and Config.sys, especially TSR's and SMARTDRV. (Your CD driver is OK and necessary)
3. Turn off Caching in your Bois.
4. REM out "load" and "run" statements in Win.ini

The whole idea is to start the machine in a "bare-bones" configuration.

By the way, I found that installing Win95 over a "clean" copy of Dos6 & Win3.1 gave no problems on the same maching so its probably a combination of problems. So try whatever works for you.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

## 12. [BBSSIG:1795] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 4 Sep 1995 11:02:14 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509041602.LAA14794@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Ted Gervais <veldrg@fox.nstn.ca>  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

At 10:17 PM 9/3/95 -0500, you wrote:  
>For anyone who wonders about the problems (or lack of) in Win95 just  
>checkout the newsgroup :  
>comp.os.ms-windows.win95.setup  
>Its VERY active.  
>Another indicator is the newsgroup:  
>alt.os.windows95.crash.crash.crash  
>(no kidding)  
>  
>73 - Ron VE1AIC  
>(one of the un-lucky ones)  
>  
>  
>

Well RON its good to see that you are active in different things. Keeps one

alive.

>

-----  
Ted Gervais  
veldrg@fox.nstn.ca  
1:251/3@fidonet 8:990/901@rbbsnet  
[44.135.33.99]  
-----

### 13. [BBSSIG:1798] Re: Windows 95 \*SUCCESS AT LAST\* (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 4 Sep 1995 20:53:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509050153.UAA16317@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Windows 95 \*SUCCESS AT LAST\*

On Mon, 4 Sep 1995, Ron VE1AIC wrote:

> Well after 3 long nights of slugging away at Win95 I've finally made it.  
> Thanks to all the hints & comments from Win95 newsgroups and Microsoft notes.  
> (You know the help .txt files that are compressed on the disk and not  
> included in the "manual".)  
>  
> I had thought it was going to be an easy install since I had no trouble  
> with the Beta version. Instead I ran into loads of problems (no pun) right  
> from the  
> start.  
> The problems seem to be caused by the installation routines of Win95 which  
> give your machine a very heavy workout and some setups just cant handle that  
> or are not compatable enough.  
> In my case it was the External Cache in my motherboard. I got "fatal  
> exception" errors and other weird things to numerous to mention until I  
> turned off the cache in my Bois setup.  
> The interesting thing is that this was only a problem \*during\* the  
> installation. Once I had Win95 up and running I could turn the cache back  
> on, thank goodness too because it was very slow without it.  
>  
> So I say to anyone still fighting to get Win95 installed, keep trying,  
> trying all the hints you've heard about. The best news is that after you are  
> installed it seems very stable and if you do give up, you'll be glad to know  
> that the Uninstall usually does a good job of returning everything back to  
> "normal" Windows.  
>  
> Here are highlightes of some hints to try during install:  
>  
> 1. Turn off Virus checking in Bois and disk. (This you \*must\* do)  
>  
> 2. REM out calls to almost everything in Autoexec.bat and Config.sys,  
> especially TSR's and SMARTDRV.(Your CD driver is OK and necessary)  
>  
> 3. Turn off Caching in your Bois.  
>  
> 4. REM out "load" and "run" statements in Win.ini  
>  
> The whole idea is to start the machine in a "bare-bones" configuration.  
>  
> By the way, I found that installing Win95 over a "clean" copy of Dos6 &  
> Win3.1 gave no problems on the same maching so its probably a combination of  
> problems. So try whatever works for you.  
>  
> 73 - Ron VE1AIC  
>  
>  
>  
>

Well Ron here are some advice AFTER you get it up and it starts  
to crash every 5 minutes!

If you can't even get win95 to come on, after it did for a day or  
2, use the boot disk you made while installing it. Choose scandisk and  
scan disk c or whichever you have win95 on.

When I did this I was ready to unenstall but tried scandisk and  
it found 1/2 meg of bad files! I killed them all and win95 has been up

for 4 hours now and is a lot faster than win 3.11 was. Not sure why...

73, de karl k5di

---

#### 14. [BBSSIG:1799] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 4 Sep 1995 20:54:39 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509050154.UAA16325@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

On Mon, 4 Sep 1995, Ted Gervais wrote:

> At 10:17 PM 9/3/95 -0500, you wrote:  
> >For anyone who wonders about the problems (or lack of) in Win95 just  
> >checkout the newsgroup :  
> >comp.os.ms-windows.win95.setup  
> >Its VERY active.  
> >Another indicator is the newsgroup:  
> >alt.os.windows95.crash.crash.crash  
> >(no kidding)  
> >  
> >73 - Ron VE1AIC  
> >(one of the un-lucky ones)  
> >  
> >  
> >  
> Well RON its good to see that you are active in different things. Keeps one  
> alive.

Well I checked out the "disaster disk" that Win95 said should be  
made before win95 was fully loaded. It had uninstall.exe on it and it did...

I have had nothing but problems all day with win95. It got worse  
and worse. I did a scandisk and that helped but it was too much. So I  
tested uninstall and it worked just fine!

I'm back to dos 6.2 and win3.11 and glad to be here.

-karl k5di

---

#### 15. [BBSSIG:1802] Re: FBB Modem Problem continues (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 5 Sep 1995 08:36:02 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509051336.IAA24669@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: jthisdal@q.continuum.net (Jim Thisdale)  
Subject: Re: FBB Modem Problem continues

In article Dave Wolf <wo5h@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com> writes:  
>Received: from dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com (dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com [204.96.214.85]) by q.continuum.net  
> (8.6.8/8.6.6) with ESMTP id VAA09783 for <jthisdal@q.continuum.net>; Sat, 29 Jul 1995 21:53:46 -0500  
>Received: from dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com (localhost [127.0.0.1]) by dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com  
> (8.6.12/8.6.9) with SMTP id UAA27337; Sat, 29 Jul 1995 20:44:48 -0500  
>X-UIDL: 807164801.004  
>Date: Sat, 29 Jul 1995 20:44:48 -0500  
>Message-Id: <199507300127.UAA20809@zeus.ia.net>  
>Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
>Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
>Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
>Precedence: bulk  
>From: Dave Wolf <wo5h@dingus.n5lyt.datarace.com>  
>To: bbssig@tapr.org  
>Subject: [BBSSIG:1408] FBB Modem Problem continues  
>X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
>X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
>Content-Length: 2333  
>Content-Type: text  
>X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
  
>Hello FBB experts!



>I'm still having trouble making a phone modem to work with FBB.  
>It's a full-featured (MNP, etc.) 14,400 external.

>The modem appears to accept upload of parameter settings from the  
>computer, seizes the line when calls come in, but this is where things  
>break down.

>Watching on a second computer/modem originating a call to the BBS, the  
>opening message is garbled. Doesn't seem to be a speed thing. All  
>speeds (14,400; 9600; 2400; 1200) may change the size of the characters  
>received from the BBS, but it is still gibberish. If callsign sent, as  
>FBB expects, only garbage characters are echoed back. When BBS observed,  
>no callsign or even garbage characters are displayed.

>I'm using 5.15c with FBBIOS3.4. I had an external 2400 baud modem hooked  
>up to a different computer running 5.15a and previous release of FBBIOS.  
>Worked straight away. Have I missed some bug report or additional setup  
>info for modems and FBB5.15c?

>Thanks for any help that you can give.

>73 de Dave W05H  
>wo5h@tapr.org

This sounds like the modem is changing the com port speed to match the  
phone line connect speed after the connection is made. Try setting the modem  
for locked port speed, you might also have to adjust it so it reports the  
correct connection data back to FBB such as the carrier speed and protocol in  
either 'VERBOSE' mode or error code mode.

Another possibility is the modem's rs-232 protocol and the computers com port  
are not set for the same values, try setting both for 8 bits, 1 stop, 1 start,  
NO Parity. And use hardware handshakeing, such as CTS, RTS, etc. in the modem  
cable and turn OFF the Xon/Xoff handshakeing, this will mess up any 8 bit data  
and wont work if your set for 7 bit data anyway.

Good Luck, and let me know if any of this helps.  
73 de Jim  
N1JMM @ bbsokk.ct.usa.na

---

## 16. [BBSSIG:1803] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 5 Sep 1995 08:36:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509051336.IAA24676@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jthisdal@q.continuum.net (Jim Thisdale)  
Subject: Re: BBS wishes

In article Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk> writes:  
>From: Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk>  
>Subject: [BBSSIG:1415] Re: BBS wishes  
>Whilst we are on this subject could I please make a plea for a broadcast (or  
>if you don't like that word, multicast) standard.

>This single addition will, successfully implemented, give us a significant  
>'win' over wire based services, which we otherwise simply emulate, badly.

>The crucial thing is to produce an 'airside' standard, that isn't  
>complicated, is preferably ASCII oriented (rather than binary) and can be  
>easily decoded using, dare I say it, basic programs.

>We are intrinsically a broadcast medium, why can we not use this feature  
>and have BBS's broadcasting the bulletins at regular intervals, 'client'  
>programs simply pick off the stuff that they want and ignore the rest.  
>With careful design (perhaps using FEC modems?) there would be no need for  
>a back channel so that in stricter licensing regimes (such as ours)  
>stations could be completely passive, BBSs would use an active form with  
>selective reject.

I like the idea, but one question comes to mind, the rules about  
no-broadcasting, with the bbs just 'pumping out' messages 'assuming' some ham  
is listening, is that really legal or do we need a waiver/change to the laws  
for ham radio useage?.

It really would save air time especially in a congested area.  
73 de Jim, n1jmm

## 17. [BBSSIG:1804] Re: BBSSIG digest 228 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 5 Sep 1995 08:37:14 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509051337.IAA24688@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jthisdal@q.continuum.net (Jim Thisdale)  
Subject: Re: BBSSIG digest 228

In article Dirk-Jan Koopman <djk@dirku.demon.co.uk> writes:

>> The main reason is because packet spectrum is a shared resource. There are  
>> a limited number of packet "channels", and most of them are usually busy,  
>> even here at my location which is considered to be "out in the boondocks".  
>> There's a lot going on out there besides BBS operations, and it's not polite  
>> to tie up the channel if you don't have to.  
>>

>What is the channel being tied up with at the moment?

>> I can just imagine the reactions I would get if I started broadcasting  
>> bulletins all day long. With 300-600 bulletins a day flowing through, "all  
>> day" may not be enough time to do the needed broadcasts and re-broadcasts  
>> for such a scheme to fly. The local hams would think I was a real jerk if I  
>> did that, and they would be right. Let's keep in mind the often repeated  
>> statement that most individual BBS users only look at a few, out of the  
>> hundreds or thousands of bulletins in the typical BBS. Everybody likes  
>> different "stuff", and the stuff they don't like is boring to them..  
>>

>> Is there really any reason to suppose that these same BBS users will want to  
>> have EVERY bulletin broadcast? Let's get real, folks. That's about as  
>> realistic as the idea that everybody is going to switch over to the special  
>> client software which would be required at the same time. It's real nice to  
>> think that everybody will soon be multitasking, but here on planet earth  
>> most hams are rather short on cash, and get by as they can with XT's, AT's,  
>> and even C-64's.  
>>

>How were the bulletins transferred onto your system? If they came by  
>radio (and knowing your views on this matter, it seems quite likely..)  
>then surely they were broadcast? As for computer power, I wrote a simple  
>client that works quite happily thank you on a Genuine IBM (XT, 4.77Mhz)  
>Computer (10Mb Hard disk).  
>

>> The transfer of text over packet is 100 percent accurate ( most times)  
>> because of the use of checksums, ect... How are you going to do that in a  
>> broadcast? Hmmm?  
>>

>> How about the guys who have to go through a couple of nodes or digis to  
>> reach the nearest BBS? How about the guys who live out on the "ragged edge"  
>> of the BBS's area of coverage? How about the guys who live beyond a hill or  
>> on the other side of town? How about the guys who use their non-multitasking  
>> computers for something besides packet most of the time, and like to just  
>> "check in" and then go on to do other things with thier computers and TNC's?  
>>

>It is a good question. But surely the answer is not to exclude them, but to  
>extend coverage to make their task easier. Also why can't they leave  
>their machines on over night or whilst they are at work. If things are  
>retransmitted a few times a day then they will get it. In any case,  
>nobody is suggesting that this will be the only access method - what  
>about personal mail?

>Should people be accessing mailboxes thru strings of digis and nodes?  
>surely this one of the causes of channel congestion?  
>

Seems to me that 2 frequencies should be used for this, one for the bbs to  
'broadcast' the messages on and another for users to connect in on, or better  
yet the user input channel should be a REPEATER, a conventional voice type  
unit or one modified to regen the data packets while they are being received,  
done properly there will only be about 1 bit of data delay time, the repeater  
will enable the low power or hidden stations to get in just about as well as  
the local direct line of site stations do to the bbs, even better is to locate  
the bbs at this repeater site.

We have a one packet repeater out here and several tcpip switches to cover  
about 1/2 of CT. If I need to get in, I use the repeater site. They are all

interlinked with about a 2 byte delay from site to site.

73 de Jim n1jmm

---

## 18. [BBSSIG:1805] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 5 Sep 1995 08:37:49 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509051337.IAA24696@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

On Mon, 4 Sep 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

```
>
> Well I checked out the "disaster disk" that Win95 said should be
> made before win95 was fully loaded. It had uninstall.exe on it and it did...
>
> I have had nothing but problems all day with win95. It got worse
> and worse. I did a scandisk and that helped but it was too much. So I
> tested uninstall and it worked just fine!
>
> I'm back to dos 6.2 and win3.11 and glad to be here.
```

AH! Another Windows 95 success story!

The publicity wave prior to August 24th is now biting MicroSoft in the behind. The same news programs that were singing the Win 95 praises are NOW reporting the unheard-of RETURN rate of Win 95. Seems there are a LOT of people asking for their money back.....

Welcome back to the future, Karl.....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 19. [BBSSIG:1810] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 5 Sep 1995 20:28:21 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509060128.UAA28029@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

```
>
> Well I checked out the "disaster disk" that Win95 said should be
> made before win95 was fully loaded. It had uninstall.exe on it and it did...
>
> I have had nothing but problems all day with win95. It got worse
> and worse. I did a scandisk and that helped but it was too much. So I
> tested uninstall and it worked just fine!
>
> I'm back to dos 6.2 and win3.11 and glad to be here.
>
>-karl k5di
```

Sorry to hear you're having problems now Karl. Mine has been running fine all day.

Well I did blow it up good while messing around with the registry but it managed to land on its feet again. That safe mode is real cool.

With all the new stuff going on under the hood in Win95 the Bookstores will be soon be flooded with new books about this one.

For more help in Win95 trying downloading the Windows Help file :

<http://www.windows.microsoft.com/windows/support/assist.htm>

The Windows 95 Support Assistant

Developed by Microsoft's Product Service and Support (PSS) organization and the User Education Group, this help file runs on Windows 3.1, Windows for Workgroups and Windows 95. This tool was beta tested under the name "The Windows 95 Care Package." Beta testers benefited from the extensive testing conducted on Windows 95 and remarked that this help file was indispensable in assisting with their migration to Windows95. Whether you are a beta tester or new user, now you can benefit from this updated version.

73 & G.L.  
- Ron VE1AIC

---

## 20. [BBSSIG:1812] Re: Windows 95 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 6 Sep 1995 17:14:54 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509062214.RAA05643@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Windows 95

On Tue, 5 Sep 1995, Ron VE1AIC wrote:

> >  
> > Well I checked out the "disaster disk" that Win95 said should be  
> >made before win95 was fully loaded. It had uninstall.exe on it and it did...  
> Sorry to hear you're having problems now Karl. Mine has been running fine  
> all day.  
> Well I did blow it up good while messing around with the registry but it  
> managed to  
> land on its feet again. That safe mode is real cool.

>  
> For more help in Win95 trying downloading the Windows Help file :  
>  
> <http://www.windows.microsoft.com/windows/support/assist.htm>  
>  
> The Windows 95 Support Assistant  
>  
> Developed by Microsoft's Product Service and Support (PSS) organization and  
> the User Education Group, this help file runs on Windows 3.1, Windows for  
> Workgroups and Windows 95. This tool was beta tested under the name "The  
> Windows 95 Care Package." Beta testers benefited from the extensive testing  
> conducted on Windows 95 and remarked that this help file was indispensable  
> in assisting with their migration to Windows95. Whether you are a beta  
> tester or new user, now you can benefit from this updated version.

>  
> 73 & G.L.  
> - Ron VE1AIC  
>  
>  
>

Thanks Ron, I wrote all that down and will get it later today.  
That is my only major complaint about the win95 package...it has real  
poor written and on-line documentation.

And I am back up in win95....could not "fail". I loaded it with  
changes to my setup in the dos 6.2 win3.11 world. I rem'ed out the BPQ  
switch and moved everything out of startup. Then loaded win95.

While having dinner at the computer, it came up and was solid. I  
turned it off and on 3 times. It seemed to be setting more things. Then I  
set up BPQ and it came up first before the win parrrt. It came up fine but  
shortly it crashed.

I did 2 more sessions of on and then off. Then started FBB and  
JNOS and they came up just fine. Around midnight I turned on the monitor  
and there was a message telling me FBB and done "something illegal". I  
re-started FBB and at this time I have JNOS in slip mode to the internet,  
FBB and JNOS ham all multitasking together with a dos window.

Win95 is again running well. I will change to BPQ version 4.08

which doesn't load the BPQ version for windows to see if that might be a problem...

-karl  
k5di

---

## 21. [BBSSIG:1813] Re: BBS wishes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 6 Sep 1995 17:15:37 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509062215.RAA05663@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: BBS wishes

>  
>I like the idea, but one question comes to mind, the rules about  
>no-broadcasting, with the bbs just 'pumping out' messages 'assuming' some ham  
>is listening, is that really legal or do we need a waiver/change to the laws  
>for ham radio useage?.  
>  
>It really would save air time especially in a congested area.  
>73 de Jim, n1jmm  
>

Jim I would think the idea would be to have a combination of client-server system and a broadcast protocol. I dont see much sense in the BBS just "broadcasting" bulletins that no one has asked for. However a multi-cast protocol that would allow users, including other BBS, to copy & store the bulletins as they were being transmitted would be a good idea.

For example, the first station on your LAN to "download" a given bulletin would allow all the others monitoring (in multi-cast mode) to copy & store this bulletin. The user station could be setup to filter such that it would keep only to certain types of bulletins using Accept/Reject Filters.

Another routine could capture and update the bulletin list whenever a user lists from the BBS. Getting real fancy, this local list could have flags showing what bulletins were sucessfully or partially captured.

Much of this exists in the TPK system except that the existing compressed fwding protocol doesnt appear to be easy to use in a "monitor" mode.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

## 22. [BBSSIG:1814] Re: GTEPMS (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 6 Sep 1995 17:17:06 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509062217.RAA05688@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: GTEPMS

According to Pete...

>Sorry, to post this here. I didn't save the address of whoever was asking  
>about obtaining GTEPMS. I did an archie search and here's the edited list  
>of sites which have it available via anonymous FTP.

>Pete  
>ve5va.qrp@usask.ca  
>  
>Host ftp.adelaide.edu.au  
>

> Location: /pub/ka9q/gtepms  
> FILE -r--r--r-- 34481 Mar 21 1991 gtepms.doc.Z  
> FILE -r--r--r-- 163 Nov 28 1992 gtepms161.txt.Z  
> FILE -r--r--r-- 823782 Nov 28 1992 gtepms161.zip  
>

This is all pretty old stuff.. The latest ( and last ) upgrade was from version 1.8c to 1.8d ..

Version 1.8c was the last full release, and 1.8d is just an upgrade/bugfix file. I'll try to put the files related to GTEPMS in the TAPR BBSSIG FTP area.. Once it's all in there, I'll announce it here along with the file-names, ect.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Cole's Law: Finely chopped cabbage.

---

## 23. [BBSSIG:1815] GTEPMS version 1.8d - FTP info (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 6 Sep 1995 17:19:08 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509062219.RAA05695@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: GTEPMS version 1.8d - FTP info

According to John...

>> John, WT3V asked about how to find a copy of GTEPMS...  
>>  
>> The GENERAL STORE BBS, (410) 987-3542 is the only place I know of which  
>>has the latest version of GTEPMS. If you have no luck there, contact me and  
>>I'll dig it up from my archives here.  
>>  
>  
>  
>Well, I called the above number and the BBS is closed! According to a  
>message that came up when I connected,  
>someone uploaded a program with a virus and the sysop CLOSED the bbs. This  
>really is a shame that it had to happen.... I wish it still was open.  
>  
>So, I am still looking for GTEPMS.... can you help me get the program?  
>  
>73, John WT3V  
>

Sorry I was so slow in replying, John! I had to organize the GTEPMS stuff  
and write xxxx.INF files for them, so I could upload them into the

/tapr/SIG/bbssig/upload area of the TAPR FTP site, ftp.tapr.org

The files there include the full version 1.8c , along with the 1.8d upgrade.

This program is interesting, but I'm not sure about it's status.. From what  
I can tell, no new work has been done on it in a few years now. If anyone  
has more recent info on GTEPMS's status, I'd be very glad to hear of it.

If GTEPMS is no longer being developed, it's still worthwhile to look at for  
ideas for other BBS software. It has several really advanced features which  
makes it fun and interesting to run. At this point it's not quite obsolete,  
but may be so in another year or two if no further updates appear.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

It's amazing how much "mature wisdom" resembles simply being tired.

---

## 24. [BBSSIG:1820] Broadcast vs Multicast (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 7 Sep 1995 12:37:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509071737.MAA11505@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Andrew Funk <kb7uv@panix.com>  
Subject: Broadcast vs Multicast

This may well seem like a minor point, but I consider it extremely important  
with respect to the regulatory situation in the USA...

The term "broadcast" has a unique meaning according to the FCC rules:  
communications intended for reception by the general public.

What we've been discussing is one-to-many communications between Amateur  
Radio Stations. While this may be "broadcasting" according to the general  
definition of the term, it is quite different than the FCC definition of  
"broadcasting".



things very isolated though which is a good thing usually. However this may not let you "share" the BPQ between NOS in one DOS-box and FBB in another. You can crash a DOS box(es) with almost anything and not have to bail out of Windows.

If you close the said DOS-box Win95 will remove all traces of that DOS activity, including TSR's. I havn't tested this on BPQ yet since I dont have Win95 on my home PC (yet).  
(still testing Win95 at work where I backup/mirror drives and such. I want to know a lot more about Win95 before bringing it home).

Last night I sucessfully configured the Dial-In routines for Win95 TCP into Internet to replace my Trumpet Winsock. It works \*very\* well in either SLIP or PPP. The trick is the Dial-In script which is created by a utility called DSCRIPT on the CD-ROM.  
In fact there is so much extra stuff on the CD-ROM that its worth getting just for that.  
(not to mention the faster/easier install than the 13 diskettes)

That Assist help file is also on the CD-ROM although the CD-ROM version has lots of nice graphics as well. Most of the text info appears to be the same.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

## 27. [BBSSIG:1826] Missing in action? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 9 Sep 1995 11:58:41 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509091658.LAA26071@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Missing in action?

Nothing from BBSSIG for days...something die? Pulling my hair out trying to find, and waiting for someone's expert help on the previously posted LSERV problem.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N  
mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 28. [BBSSIG:1829] Re: GTEPMS version 1.8d - FTP info (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 11 Sep 1995 18:54:32 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509112354.SAA11899@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: birdman@exit109.com (John)  
Subject: Re: GTEPMS version 1.8d - FTP info

>Sorry I was so slow in replying, John! I had to organize the GTEPMS stuff  
>and write xxxx.INF files for them, so I could upload them into the  
>  
>

All I can say is thanks so much for telling me where the latest files were.  
Now, I can play with the whole thing and see if it will work better on my system.

73, John  
WT3V @ WT3V.NJ.USA.NOAM

---

## 29. [BBSSIG:1832] forwarding scripts (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 14 Sep 1995 22:11:59 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509150311.WAA08045@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Jack Taylor <n7oo@hereford.ampr.org>  
Subject: forwarding scripts

Can someone provide either a pointer to docs, or an overview on the format for bbs forwarding scrips? I'm experimenting with setting up an xn timer and the example forwarding scripts in the xn timer docs seems to be quite limited.



---

### 30. WIN95 a still a winner?

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 19 Sep 1995 17:13:09 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509192213.RAA10712@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

It's been a couple of weeks since the initial LOVE/HATE WIN95 messages. Any comments from new users or you "veterans"?

Barry

---

### 31. Compression Summary

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 19 Sep 1995 17:40:53 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509192240.RAA10874@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Any updates to this table of compression vs. BBS ?

|         |   |                                                                  |
|---------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| W0RLI   | - | Supports X Batch compression (LZH)                               |
| FBB     | - | Supports it own type of compression (FBB)                        |
| AA4RE   | - | Supports NO COMPRESSION                                          |
| MSYS    | - | Supports both RLI and FBB type Compression                       |
| PRMBS   | - | Supports RLI Compression (LZH)                                   |
| WinLink | - | No compression at present, X batch planned for next major update |
| GTEPMS  | - | I think it has both X batch and FBB compression.                 |
| JNOS    | - | Has FBB, would be trivial to add X batch.                        |
| WNOS    | - | Status unknown.                                                  |
| TNOS    | - | Has FBB, may add X batch in the future.                          |
| CBBS    | - | By K3RLI - NO COMPRESSSION                                       |
| CBBS    | - | Atari ST version, status unknown.                                |
| CBBS    | - | Amiga version, has FBB, supports both (?).                       |
| CBBS    | - | BSD 4.x version, status unknown, possibly extinct.               |
| TheBox  | - | Status unknown.                                                  |

---

### 32. Re: [BBSSIG:1836] Compression Summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 19 Sep 1995 20:37:34 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509200137.UAA11547@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From hardie@duke.usask.ca Tue Sep 19 19:20:21 1995  
Date: Tue, 19 Sep 1995 18:18:08 -0600 (CST)  
From: Peter Hardie <hardie@duke.usask.ca>  
To: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Subject: Re: [BBSSIG:1836] Compression Summary  
In-Reply-To: <199509192240.RAA10874@zeus.ia.net>  
Message-Id: <Pine.OSF.3.91.950919181610.24230A-100000@duke.usask.ca>  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

> CBBS - Amiga version, has FBB, supports both (?).

It only has FBB compression right now. I'm going to look at adding RLI compression sometime soon.

73 de Pete  
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

---

### 33. [BBSSIG:1838] Re: Compression Summary (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 19 Sep 1995 20:37:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509200137.UAA11540@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Compression Summary

>  
>Any updates to this table of compression vs. BBS ?  
>  
>  
>

To my knowlege, GTEPMS only supports FBB compression.

The latest version of GTEPMS I know of is v 1.8d .. If you hear a reference to a more recent update to GTEPMS, lemme know!

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Budget the luxuries first!

---

### 34. [BBSSIG:1837] Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 19 Sep 1995 20:35:00 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509200135.UAA11518@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N) (by way of mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N))  
Subject: Third plea for help! LSERV

Okay...I'll try one more time. I have posted this twice before and had ONE response. That response suggested a directory name change, but was not the answer. The directory is named in the cfg file, so it doesn't matter what you call it. PLEASE, if you have good knowledge of how to make this program work, let me know what is going on here. I know many people run it successfully.

Repost:

I have just obtained LSERV 1.06 from Dan, N7MRP. I'm having nothing but trouble with it. Since I have put it on two computers and have the same trouble with both, I can only assume I have it setup wrong. I know others are running it, so I'm assuming it isn't a problem with the program.

It is installed "by the book", with all files in the \FBB directory. I have created the default \FBB\USERS\ARCHIVES.LSR\ directory, as shown in the cfg file. I have also modified the init.srv file as per instructions. In addition to the LSERV LSERV line, I have included a FOOBAR LSERV line to use as a test list after installation.

If I, or anyone else, originates a message to LSERV and subscribes to FOOBAR, it seems to do as expected. It sends a reply to the subscriber, starts the list, and informs me of the new subscriber with a message. As part of the test, I also subscribe to the list. FOOBAR.USR appears in the FBB directory, with both callsigns in it.

The problem comes when someone sends a message to the list. If I (at the console, OR coming in on a port like a user), or the subscribed user sends a message to FOOBAR, the computer locks up as soon as the control-z or /ex is received. To further complicate things, when I reboot, it locks up again when it tries to import some of the messages generated by the incoming FOOBAR message. I have to delete the mail.in and server.in files to get it back up. Actually, I haven't checked to see if one of them could be left, I've just dumped them both. It seems to be really messy.

Does anyone recognize all this behavior? I would like to get this resolved and get the server up and running. Feel free to reply direct, if you wish. When an answer is found, I'll gladly post a cure for all to read, even if it really is my blunder. As far as I know, I've done it, as I said earlier, by the book.

Thanks for any help received (I HOPE!).

---

### 35. [BBSSIG:1842] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 20 Sep 1995 17:43:54 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509202243.RAA19113@zeus.ia.net>

Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

On Tue, 19 Sep 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> It's been a couple of weeks since the initial LOVE/HATE WIN95  
> messages. Any comments from new users or you "veterans"?  
>  
> Barry  
>  
>  
>

Hi Barry, we have all been so busy re-starting our computers from a "blue background" message that have had no time to comment on how we love Win95. But that is almost behind me now.

I love Win95 and recommend that everyone with at least a 88386 computer with at least 8 meg of ram, should splurge and pay the \$89 price. It's a great operating system. I have FBB ver 5.15 running in a dos window. Also running is my Fidonet bbs 1:305/111.

Soon I will get JNOS version 1.10k running. As of today it will run for about 3 hours before crashing the computer. I am just bot having enuf time to play and find the secret of getting this going.

```

* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*

```

---

### 36. [BBSSIG:1843] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 20 Sep 1995 17:44:53 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509202244.RAA19122@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

On Tue, 19 Sep 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> messages. Any comments from new users or you "veterans"?

I like 95. It works pretty good for what I need to do. Desqview doesn't do too good under it, but that is to be expeced. Multitasking a multitasker is not a good idea at any time...

It has promises for the future.

```
73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ *****
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

```

---

### 37. [BBSSIG:1844] Re: Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 20 Sep 1995 17:45:19 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509202245.RAA19142@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Third plea for help! LSERV

This is just a shot in the dark, but to me it sounds like the program could be asking for more free RAM than is available...

Hope this helps! I dunno anything about LSERV, but have struggled with many other FBB servers and sometimes come up short of RAM, especially if the message base is getting pretty large.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Budget the luxuries first!

---

### 38. [BBSSIG:1842] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 20 Sep 1995 17:53:20 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509202253.RAA19183@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
> Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?  
>  
> ... some deleted  
>  
> Soon I will get JNOS version 1.10k running. As of today it will  
> run for about 3 hours before crashing the computer. I am just bot having  
> enuf time to play and find the secret of getting this going.  
>  
>  
Karl,  
I'm thinking of keeping the \$89 until a version comes out that will  
run more than 3 hours. (-)

73 Barry

---

### 39. [BBSSIG:1849] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:38:43 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509211338.IAA24388@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

>It's been a couple of weeks since the initial LOVE/HATE WIN95  
>messages. Any comments from new users or you "veterans"?  
>  
>Barry  
>

Well Barry after a rocky start I've found Win95 to be stable and a lot of fun.  
Well worth the effort, I use at home and at work all the time.  
The biggest outstanding issue for this group would be to see how well Win95  
will run existing Ham software. Most DOS stuff works great but some TSR's  
and BPQ in particular are  
not working at all. Karl had mentioned he got an earlier version to work I  
hvnt been able  
to dig up 4.07 (I think thats the one, cant find his message), anyway 4.08  
locks things up big-time.  
I've been so busy playing with all the other stuff going that I hvn't spend  
any serious time  
trying to figure out the BPQ problem.  
I see that other INT14 software has problems as well.

Anyone have any success with BPQ?  
73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

### 40. [BBSSIG:1850] Re: Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:39:02 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509211339.IAA24395@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Subject: Re: Third plea for help! LSERV

Hmmm.. I found and installed LSERV v108, and didn't have any luck either.

In my case it would accept and kill a message addressed to the server, but that was all.. No output.

Now we have two guys trying to figger out how to get LSERV to work.

I'll ask around on packet. There's a SYSOP here in Texas who allegedly has it working. I'll try to discover the "secret" and report it here.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Budget the luxuries first!

---

#### 41. [BBSSIG:1851] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:40:44 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509211340.IAA24416@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jbrooks@netins.net  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

>  
> Return-Path: <bbssig@tapr.org>  
> Received: from sys1.tapr.org by ins.netins.net (MX V4.1 AXP) with SMTP; Tu  
> Sep 1995 17:26:09 CST  
> Received: from sys1.tapr.org (localhost [127.0.0.1]) by sys1.tapr.org  
> (8.6.12/8.6.9) with SMTP id RAA02243; Tue, 19 Sep 1995 17:14:24  
> Date: Tue, 19 Sep 1995 17:14:24 -0500  
> Message-ID: <199509192213.RAA10712@zeus.ia.net>  
> Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Precedence: bulk  
> From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
> To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1835] WIN95 a still a winner?  
> X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
> X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
> Content-Length: 130  
> Content-Type: text  
> X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
>  
> It's been a couple of weeks since the initial LOVE/HATE WIN95  
> messages. Any comments from new users or you "veterans"?  
>  
> Barry  
>  
>  
Love it here! And unlike some, I haven't had any problems I can trace to  
bpq's "windows" version. Yes, there are some occasional problems, but most  
can be traced to a very elusive drive controller card. (I really ought to  
replace the thing!)

73 de Jim, K0JJV

---

#### 42. [BBSSIG:1852] Re: Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:41:09 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509211341.IAA24429@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: Third plea for help! LSERV

>This is just a shot in the dark, but to me it sounds like the program could  
>be asking for more free RAM than is available...

Thanks, Charles, but I have over 200k on one of the two systems I'm running  
on. The other is just under 150k.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N Scottsbluff, NE  
INTERNET: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us

### 43. [BBSSIG:1854] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:43:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509211343.IAA24459@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: tburton@wolfdenswsc.k12.ar.us (Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY)  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

>> Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
>> Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?  
>>  
>.. some deleted  
>>  
>> Soon I will get JNOS version 1.10k running. As of today it will  
>> run for about 3 hours before crashing the computer. I am just bot having  
>> enuf time to play and find the secret of getting this going.  
>>  
>>  
>Karl,  
>I'm thinking of keeping the \$89 until a version comes out that will  
>run more than 3 hours. (:-)  
>  
>73 Barry  
>  
I know that I will keep the \$89. I know of only 5 people here in Prescott  
Arkansas that have upgraded(?) to WIN95, of those 5, three of them had to  
restore their respective hard disks to Pre-WIN95 because WIN95 either partly  
or completey trashed their hard drives. Three for five, I don't like those  
odds.

73 De Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY / Prescott Arkansas  
Amateur Packet Radio: KB5ILY @ KB5ILY.SWAR.AR.USA.NOAM  
Internet: tburton@wolfdenswsc.k12  
WWW: wolfdenswsc.k12.ar.us/~tburton/  
GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES

### 44. [BBSSIG:1856] Re: Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:44:45 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509211344.IAA24485@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: Third plea for help! LSERV

On Tue, 19 Sep 1995 mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us wrote:

> Okay...I'll try one more time. I have posted this twice before and had ONE  
> response. That response suggested a directory name change, but was not the  
> answer. The directory is named in the cfg file, so it doesn't matter what  
> you call it. PLEASE, if you have good knowledge of how to make this program  
> work, let me know what is going on here. I know many people run it  
> successfully.

What makes you think many people run this software? I don't and  
no-one has talked about it around here....

>  
> Repost:  
>  
> I have just obtained LSERV 1.06 from Dan, N7MRP. I'm having nothing but  
> trouble with it. Since I have put it on two computers and have the same  
> trouble with both, I can only assume I have it setup wrong. I know others  
> are running it, so I'm assuming it isn't a problem with the program.  
>  
> It is installed "by the book", with all files in the \FBB directory. I have  
> created the default \FBB\USERS\ARCHIVES.LSR\ directory, as shown in the cfg  
> file. I have also modified the init.srv file as per instructions. In  
> addition to the LSERV LSERV line, I have included a FOOBAR LSERV line to use  
> as a test list after installation.  
>

Adding things to init.srv is often a problem. Look at what you put there and if possible add it with the automated init.srv gadget.

```
> If I, or anyone else, originates a message to LSERV and subscribes to
> FOOBAR, it seems to do as expected. It sends a reply to the subscriber,
> starts the list, and informs me of the new subscriber with a message. As
> part of the test, I also subscribe to the list. FOOBAR.USR appears in the
> FBB directory, with both callsigns in it.
>
> The problem comes when someone sends a message to the list. If I (at the
> console, OR coming in on a port like a user), or the subscribed user sends a
> message to FOOBAR, the computer locks up as soon as the control-z or /ex is
> received. To further complicate things, when I reboot, it locks up again
> when it tries to import some of the messages generated by the incoming
> FOOBAR message. I have to delete the mail.in and server.in files to get it
> back up. Actually, I haven't checked to see if one of them could be left,
> I've just dumped them both. It seems to be really messy.
```

I use the mail.in feature a lot (pkunzip usa234, ren usa.234 mail.in, move mail.in \fbb) and that feature has a delay of many seconds before the server checks for that file. I know that the mail.in file is not your problem.

So the presence of a server.in file locks up the server. Where is this file placed? It must be the right place.

```
>
> Does anyone recognize all this behavior? I would like to get this resolved
> and get the server up and running. Feel free to reply direct, if you wish.
> When an answer is found, I'll gladly post a cure for all to read, even if it
> really is my blunder. As far as I know, I've done it, as I said earlier, by
> the book.
>
> Thanks for any help received (I HOPE!).
>
>
>
```

Well you got another response. I hope the next time you include your first name and callsign. I might know you.

```

* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*

```

---

#### 45. [BBSSIG:1855] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:44:10 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509211344.IAA24471@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

On Wed, 20 Sep 1995, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

```
> > Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
> > Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?
> >
> .. some deleted
> >
> > Soon I will get JNOS version 1.10k running. As of today it will
> > run for about 3 hours before crashing the computer. I am just bot having
> > enuf time to play and find the secret of getting this going.
> >
> >
```

```
> Karl,
> I'm thinking of keeping the $89 until a version comes out that will
> run more than 3 hours. (:-)
>
```

Kinda redefines the term 'plug and play', huh? Plug, play, and play, and play, and weeks later possible stability.

Win95 DOES have promise, but as of yet it hasn't delivered on that promise. The ratio of horror stories to successes is about 3 to 1. Return rates on WIN95 at the local superstores is about 40% at the present.

Win95.5 (Win96, Win2001, whatever they call it) will probably be what they promised for WIN95.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

#### 46. [BBSSIG:1864] Re: Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <[barry@ia.net](mailto:barry@ia.net)>  
Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 16:31:33 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199509212131.QAA26794@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Andrew Funk <[kb7uv@panix.com](mailto:kb7uv@panix.com)>  
Subject: Re: Third plea for help! LSERV

Meant to mention this earlier, but have been swamped...

There's another program which performs as a list server. and more, for packet BBSs -- RMAILER by Frank Warren, KB4CYC.

Info, the man page, the ARRL CNC paper on RMAILer, and an ftp link are on the RMAILER Home Page:

<http://www.arfunk.com/arfunk/rmailer.html>

73, Andy

--

|                                |                                                                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| _____ Andrew Funk, KB7UV _____ |                                                                           |
| Tech Producer/Editor           | Internet: <a href="mailto:kb7uv@panix.com">kb7uv@panix.com</a>            |
| WCBS-TV Channel 2 News         | <a href="http://www.arfunk.com/arfunk/">http://www.arfunk.com/arfunk/</a> |
| New York, NY USA               | Writing for my self, not my employer!                                     |

---

#### 47. [BBSSIG:1866] Re: Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <[barry@ia.net](mailto:barry@ia.net)>  
Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:12:51 -0500 (CDT)  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <199509230212.VAA05591@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: [mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us](mailto:mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us) (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: Third plea for help! LSERV

```
> What makes you think many people run this software? I don't and
>no-one has talked about it around here....
```

Okay...you're right. MANY was the wrong word. There are several though.

```
> Adding things to init.srv is often a problem. Look at what you
>put there and if possible add it with the automated init.srv gadget.
```

Had not thought of that...also haven't had any trouble adding things to the init.srv (except for security levels) in the past. I'll give it a try.

```
> I use the mail.in feature a lot (pkunzip usa234, ren usa.234
>mail.in, move mail.in \fbb) and that feature has a delay of many seconds
```



>before the server checks for that file. I know that the mail.in file is  
>not your problem.

I wondered about a delay also, but gave it 5 to 10 minutes to come to its  
senses a couple of times while I did something else.

> So the presence of a server.in file locks up the server. Where is  
>this file placed? It must be the right place.

All files are in \fbb.

> Well you got another response. I hope the next time you include  
>your first name and callsign. I might know you.

Well, it took some test messages to my son to figure out why the sig file  
was not on that post. I didn't know it until you mentioned it. It appears  
that Eurdora doesn't always include the signature file. I used REDIRECT to  
repost a "trash"ed message, and REDIRECT does not include the sig. REPLY  
and FORWARD do, however. My apologies.

There should be a sig on this one. BTW, Andy Funk says there is another  
program out there. I will check it out also.

Thanks again.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N Scottsbluff, NE  
INTERNET: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
PACKET RADIO: AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

#### 48. [BBSSIG:1867] Re: Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:13:07 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509230213.VAA05598@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N)  
Subject: Re: Third plea for help! LSERV

>Meant to mention this earlier, but have been swamped...  
>  
>There's another program which performs as a list server. and more, for  
>packet BBSS -- RMAILER by Frank Warren, KB4CYC.  
>  
>Info, the man page, the ARRL CNC paper on RMAILer, and an ftp link are on  
>the RMAILER Home Page:  
>  
> <http://www.arfunk.com/arfunk/rmailer.html>  
>  
>  
>73, Andy

Thanks Andy. I just downloaded it and will take a look. Of course, I'm  
still curious about what the problem is with my configuration of lserv.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. AG0N Scottsbluff, NE  
INTERNET: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
PACKET RADIO: AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

#### 49. [BBSSIG:1868] Re: Third plea for help! LSERV (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:13:31 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509230213.VAA05605@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: Heikki Hannikainen <oh7lzb@zone.pspt.fi>  
Subject: Re: Third plea for help! LSERV

> In my case it would accept and kill a message addressed to the server, but  
> that was all.. No output.

At least FBB kills the input message no matter if the server works or  
not. You might want to check out the import/export file names &  
directories of the BBS software you're using, and make sure that they  
match the ones configured on LSERV.

If they are OK, you can write an import file for LSERV by hand, or export one from the BBS, then run LSERV from the command line the way the BBS software does it. Then you'll see if LSERV complains about something...

---

< Heikki Hannikainen <> ax.25: oh7lzb@oh7rba.#kuo.fin.eu >  
< Internet: hessu@pspt.fi <> Amprnet: oh7lzb@gw.oh7rba.ampr.org >

---

## 50. [BBSSIG:1869] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:14:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509230214.VAA05612@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

The version I am using is 4.07b of the bpq switch. Think this version is still on the SOURCE, ftp.ucsd.edu but if not I will put it there again.

Yes ANY 4.08x version will not work with Win95.

-karl

---

## 51. [BBSSIG:1870] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:14:51 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509230214.VAA05626@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

On Thu, 21 Sep 1995 jbrooks@netins.net wrote:

> >  
> Love it here! And unlike some, I haven't had any problems I can trace to  
> bpq's "windows" version. Yes, there are some occasional problems, but most  
> can be traced to a very elusive drive controller card. (I really ought to  
> replace the thing!)  
>  
> 73 de Jim, K0JJV  
>  
>

Jim, I did a real test and found that BPQ 4.08x would crash Win95 absolutely every time. I run a 486-66 IBM motherboard with 16 meg ram and a 540 meg hd. svga 1 meg video card. Microsoft Office Pro is the big software.

Please tell us what you have that works.

Now with ver 4.07b I have FBB running 24 hours a day with zero crashes.

-karl

---

## 52. [BBSSIG:1871] Mailfiles missing! (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:15:23 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509230215.VAA05636@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: JIM TANIS <jimtanis@ink.org>  
Subject: Mailfiles missing!

Hello;

I am having a problem running FBB on my system. I am running FBB 5.15c, BPQ 4.08, under windows 95 (June preview version) on a Leading Edge 486DX33 with 8mb RAM. I have

about 13mb free on the BBS drive, and between 170-200k on the FREE line on FBB.

Intermittently, the BBS will start to loose the text of messages. When you read one of these messages, the text is replaced with the line (not quite this way, don't have it in front of me)

FILE MISSING D:\FBB\MAIL\MAIL1\ (message filename)

Once it starts doing this, it will continue till I re-boot FBB. I have tried to add a line in MFILTER.WRD to look for D:\FBB\MAIL\ to trap these, but MFILTER is not seeing that, or may possibly be the cause of the problem.

Anyone have any ideas what might be causing the problem?

By the way, the BBS seems to be running fine under WIN95. I see some bugs, but nothing to do with BBS operation.

Thanks es 73!!

--  
Jim Tanis  
913 W. Blunt  
Downs, Ks 67437

Amateur Radio Packet address : NX0R @ NX0R.#NCKS.KS.USA.NOAM  
Internet : jimtanis@ink.org

--... --

---

### 53. [BBSSIG:1872] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:16:36 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509230216.VAA05644@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

>>  
>Love it here! And unlike some, I haven't had any problems I can trace to  
>bpq's "windows" version. Yes, there are some occasional problems, but most  
>can be traced to a very elusive drive controller card. (I really ought to  
>replace the thing!)

>  
>73 de Jim, K0JJV

>  
Perhaps those who have managed to get BPQ to work with Win95 would be so kind to share some of the tricks. It just locks up for me no matter what mode I try it in.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

### 54. [BBSSIG:1880] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 23 Sep 1995 21:10:39 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509240210.VAA11680@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

Well with egg on my face it is my duty to admitt to taking my Win95 back to where I bought it and getting, no questions asked, cash money back. The uninstall software with Win95 is truly the very best part of it. So now back with windows 3.11 in which FBB and JNOS run just fine.

So I asked at Walden Software if many customers were returning Win95. The store manager said "about 70% of what we sold we got back. We will no longer stock Win95".

73, de karl k5di

## 55. [BBSSIG:1882] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 24 Sep 1995 10:36:20 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509241536.KAA16029@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Ted Gervais" <ve1drg@fox.nstn.ca>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

On Sat, 23 Sep 1995 21:17:58 -0500,  
Karl F. Larsen <bbssig@tapr.org> wrote:

> Well with egg on my face it is my duty to admitt to taking my  
>Win95 back to where I bought it and getting, no questions asked, cash  
>money back. The uninstall software with Win95 is truly the very best part  
>of it. So now back with windows 3.11 in which FBB and JNOS run just fine.  
>  
> So I asked at Walden Software if many customers were returning  
>Win95. The store manager said "about 70% of what we sold we got back. We  
>will no longer stock Win95".  
>  
>73, de karl k5di  
Good to see that people are doing this. Lots of Hype at first and next a  
price reduction.....they deserve this 'return' thing. Also, this was  
supposed to be 32 bit software and now it turns out that it was only  
running on about 28 bits. ??? Isn't that something.  
--  
Ted Gervais  
Ted's PCBoard BBS, Coldbrook, Nova Scotia, Canada  
Internet: ve1drg@fox.nstn.ca  
BBS : 1-902-679-2258 (3 nodes)  
FidoNet : <1:251/3>  
RbbsNet : <8:990/901>

---

## 56. [BBSSIG:1884] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 08:57:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509251357.IAA22235@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

On Sun, 24 Sep 1995, Ted Gervais wrote:

> On Sat, 23 Sep 1995 21:17:58 -0500,  
> Karl F. Larsen <bbssig@tapr.org> wrote:  
>  
> > Well with egg on my face it is my duty to admitt to taking my  
> >Win95 back to where I bought it and getting, no questions asked, cash  
> >money back. The uninstall software with Win95 is truly the very best part  
> >of it. So now back with windows 3.11 in which FBB and JNOS run just fine.  
> >  
> > So I asked at Walden Software if many customers were returning  
> >Win95. The store manager said "about 70% of what we sold we got back. We  
> >will no longer stock Win95".  
> >  
> >73, de karl k5di  
> >Good to see that people are doing this. Lots of Hype at first and next a  
> >price reduction.....they deserve this 'return' thing. Also, this was  
> >supposed to be 32 bit software and now it turns out that it was only  
> >running on about 28 bits. ??? Isn't that something.  
> >--  
> >What makes you think Win95 uses only 28 bits? The book and the  
> >box both stated without further discussion that Win95 is 32 bit with  
> >better interrupt use and my use confirmed Win95 is much faster than  
> >Windows 3.11 on the same computer.

What Win95 will not do is run DOS programs well.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu \*  
\*

\* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM      Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet      \*  
\* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C      Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12      \*  
\*      \*      \*  
\* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory      \*  
\*      \*      \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 57. [BBSSIG:1886] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 08:59:04 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509251359.IAA22253@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

> Well with egg on my face it is my duty to admitt to taking my  
>Win95 back to where I bought it and getting, no questions asked, cash  
>money back. The uninstall software with Win95 is truly the very best part  
>of it. So now back with windows 3.11 in which FBB and JNOS run just fine.  
>  
> So I asked at Walden Software if many customers were returning  
>Win95. The store manager said "about 70% of what we sold we got back. We  
>will no longer stock Win95".  
>  
>73, de karl k5di  
>  
Well Karl I can respect your decision but I'm still moving ahead with Win95.  
As per your note I've downloaded BPQ4.07a from ftp.ucsd.edu and it does run  
under  
Win95. Still some strange things happen and it doesnt always work. Yesterday  
it worked 100% but today it wont run from Start->Program->Dos\_prompt, just  
locks up no matter what configuration.  
So I tried grabbing DOS with the F8 at boot-up and ran BPQCODE from there OK.  
Then called WIN and Win95 came up no problem and left BPQ running.  
Getting real brave I tried some experiments and found that running PAC4 or  
FBB was no problem. Win95 did report a COM2 access conflict but allowed PAC4  
or FBB to take control of the port no problem. They would run fine in a  
window or in the background.  
Now the real trick was to try shut down FBB/PAC4, switch my serial port  
cable from the tnc to the phone modem and start my MS Winsock Dial-Up client  
for Internet. As expected Win95 reported a port conflict but allowed Winsock  
to take over the COM port. I was able to PPP into Internet and get my mail.  
After logging off InterNet and closing MS Winsock I tried running PAC4  
again. Was I surprised to see that Win95 allowed me access to BPQ again  
(after acknowledging the port conflict) no problem.  
  
Since this PC is not my main BBS machine I dont have the need to run FBB or  
JNOS full-time on it but its nice to experiment with. At work I have been  
running Win95 from day-one..er actually day-3 (took that long to get it to  
install HI).  
So far its been fun, occasional crashes when I tried something wierd but  
then there have been almost as many non-crashes when I tried things that  
would have brought down Win3.1.  
  
So far, other than BPQ 4.08 and a few (old) DOS games, I hvn't found  
anything that wouldnt run on this PC...mind you some old DOS stuff may need  
to be run from the DOS boot mode but then they probably wouldnt run under  
Win3.1 either.  
The way I see it we still have DOS (7.0) capability even with Win95 when you  
really need it.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

## 58. [BBSSIG:1887] winpak4.zip (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 09:11:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509251411.JAA22308@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: winpak4.zip

I just read a bulletin on my bbs from England written by Mike,  
G00PC and he said he has written a very capable packet radio bbs and  
individual user software with Visual Basic. I got the the subject file

from the internet system demon.co.uk and placed it on ftp.ucsd.edu in the hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming directory. It will be there until Bryan moves it to the /packet/winpak directory.

Since I got it just moments ago I haven't set it up or printed the manual or ... ect. But next it will go into the hamradio file section of my telephone bbs which is 505 536-7177 and is available 24 hours a day 300 to 28,800 bps. Just log in and go to the file section. Then press d and select your best type of transfer mode (zmodem is by far the best) and ask for winpak4.zip and hope the lines are clear.

```

* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*

```

---

## 59. [BBSSIG:1888] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 09:12:01 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199509251412.JAA22315@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

On Sun, 24 Sep 1995, Ted Gervais wrote:

> supposed to be 32 bit software and now it turns out that it was only  
> running on about 28 bits. ??? Isn't that something.

I found that my copy of Win 95 beta became very stable, once I installed QEMM 386. Isn't it strange that a 16 bit memory manager helped to stabilize a 32 bit os. Hmm...

Anyway, I like it. And I haven't had the problems other have been having with BPQ under 95 beta. However, I don't run a full time PBBS on the 95 machine. That's still running under desqview and dos 6.2 on the 386...

I'll have to do more testing here with BPQ to see if it crashes for me...

```
73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ *****
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

```

# October 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9510

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9510](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9510)

## 1. [BBSSIG:1902] Optional White Pages (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:11:52 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082011.PAA14881@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: Bill Vodall <vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us>  
Subject: Optional White Pages

Things have sure been quiet here lately... So, here's an old issue that will be very relevant to me in the next few weeks.

I'll be leaving shortly on my annual fall pilgrimage to Colorado. It's an extended trip and I'll be there long enough to set up a packet system. Now, as long as I'm there, I won't be able to receive packet AX25 mail from folks in the local area. If they were to send a message to "wa7nwp@kf0uw.#neco.co.usa.noam" - any of the White Page servers on the systems that had my home address would ignore the Colorado address and sent the message to where I'm not. So I propose that the White Page servers should only re-address mail IF the address is sent with NO BBS address or a special address, (wa7nwp@wp) that essential says to look up and use the stored address.

Having the addresses is a good thing - but sometimes the user knows better.

Thoughts? Comments? Or am I confused on this? It appears the message I just entered for a test is on its way out of state. It'll be interesting to see what happens to it.

--

Bill Vodall Box 75 Kevin, Mt 59454 1-406-337-2222  
Reply-To: vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us  
Amateur Packet: wa7nwp@wa7nwp.#ncmt.mt.usa.noam

---

## 2. [BBSSIG:1899] WinPak4 notes (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:24:16 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082024.PAA15047@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: WinPak4 notes

This note has been mailed to the author as well. Its a great program and it should be able to work with almost any Network/BBS.

Comments/suggestions on WinPak4:

I have found only 1 serious bug so far, (that crashes the program):

If you have WordWrap ON and press PgUp or PgDn keys you will get an Illegal Function Call and the program will crash (gracefully at least with Win95).

Here are some suggestions for further improvements:

1. To enlarge the screen display area by having the following Options On/Off:
  - (a) Hide Buttons at the top
  - (b) Not display the Status line at the bottom
2. Option to not display non-text characters. Very helpful for monitoring Networks with Netrom codes or not displaying binary data of fwding/transfers.
3. Add the use of a @ (distribution) Field to the Bulletin download setup. This would allow you to define @AMSAT bulletins for example.

\*\*\* Note I was able to trick the program into using the @ column instead of the T0 column by clicking on that column during the bulletin column setup. However I had to enter @AMSAT into the Select.Txt file which means that @ names could only be 5 chars long since the @ character is displayed in this column. Changing my definition of T0 to @ also affects the NOT T0 as well but thats also usefull. This does not affect Personal Mail recovery.

This is a great program and I hope you will continue to support it. Thanks for all your hard work.

73 - Ron  
VE1AIC@VE1AIC.PE.CAN.NOAM

p.s. If anyone is interested I can upload the README.TXT file for WinPak4 (15K) which describes most of its operation & features.

---

### 3. [BBSSIG:1898] WinPak4 review (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:24:31 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082024.PAA15054@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Subject: WinPak4 review

After playing with WinPak4 for just a day my first impressions are very positive.

It even works good on Win95.(no surprise)

It has a BBS list and mail system similar to TPK but uses text mode tranfers and standard BBS commands that can easily be tailored to any BBS. It has YAPP and 7Plus transfer capability but unfortunately no FBB compression. The Auto-BBS session will connect to a BBS and then using the LR command capture a Bulletin list, using the LN command look for Personal mail which is then captured using standard "R nnnn" commands.

There are setup files to automatically download certain type bulletins or you can just mark the ones you want from the bulletin list and ask it to go get them.

Something really new, besides all the cool Windows stuff, is the voice announcer..which I think is Roger's digitized voice..complete with British accent.

This looks like a well-written program and in the true Amateur Spirit is promoted as Amateur-Freeware.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

### 4. [BBSSIG:1897] winpak4.zip is IT! (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:24:38 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082024.PAA15061@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: winpak4.zip is IT!

Members of this sig have been looking for a GUI Windows program for the past months and debated what it should have and how it should work. Well this is to inform you that the subject file is the answer to almost all we were looking for!

I just loaded it onto Win95 and earlier on windows 3.1 and in both cases it loads just like any other windows program. I pkunzipped it into a directory \test. Then went to Run in both windows and typed \test\setup and it did.

It makes a program group with lots of on-line help. I am reading this and it's good. I started the main program and it looks just like Word and Excel and all other windows programs. Has a tool line and the standard things like edit and help and file.

This is without question the best looking ham radio program I have ever seen. It is of highest quality and will cause a lot of new packet hams if we Sysop's make the software available.

The license for this software is also very clear. It is free and the author wants anyone who tries to make money from it to feel very bad. So we can give it away with his blessing.

As I said before it's available via the internet on ftp.ucsd.edu and by telephone at 505 526-7177 at any speed your modem runs at.



I have not written the script to connect this software to a modem yet. That will be a problem for me since I have the BPQ switch and that's what everything I have connects to. But hope someone comes on line and says that's as easy as loading the software!

The author says it won't connect to the BPQ switch. I hope to prove him wrong. BPQ can be made to "look" like a tnc for the W0RLI bbs software. I think I can fool this software too...

```

* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
* *
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
* *
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
* *

```

---

## 5. Re: [BBSSIG:1851] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:24:58 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082024.PAA15068@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From testbarr Sun Oct 8 15:21:51 1995  
From: Test account for Barry <testbarr>  
Message-Id: <199510082021.PAA14964@zeus.ia.net>  
Subject: Re: [BBSSIG:1851] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)  
To: barry (Barry Buelow WA0RJT)  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:21:49 -0500 (CDT)  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
Content-Type: text  
Content-Length: 2416

Forwarded message:

>From jbrooks@netins.net Mon Sep 25 10:53:46 1995  
From: jbrooks@netins.net  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 10:51:25 CST  
To: barry@ia.net  
Message-ID: <00996EBD.52A3A981.657@netins.net>  
Subject: Re: [BBSSIG:1851] Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

>  
> Return-Path: <barry@ia.net>  
> Received: from zeus.ia.net by ins.netins.net (MX V4.1 AXP) with SMTP; Thu,  
> Sep 1995 08:38:54 CST  
> Received: (from barry@localhost) by zeus.ia.net (8.6.10/8.6.9) id IAA24405  
> jbrooks@netins.net; Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:40:35 -0500  
> From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
> Message-ID: <199509211340.IAA24405@zeus.ia.net>  
> Subject: Re: [BBSSIG:1851] Re: WIN95 a still a winner?  
> To: jbrooks@netins.net  
> Date: Thu, 21 Sep 1995 08:40:35 -0500 (CDT)  
> In-Reply-To: <00996B21.4F00ED8D.1117@netins.net> from "jbrooks@netins.net"  
> Sep 20, 95 10:27:50 pm  
> X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
> Content-Type: text  
> Content-Length: 156  
>

> Jim,

>

> Could you provide more details on which version of BPQ and what  
> BBS program, set ups, etc?

>

> I think that would be helpful to the group.

>

> Tnx,

> Barry

>

>

I'm running FBB ver 5.15c and BPQ version 4.08a on a 486/40 with 8MB Ram.  
BPQ is loaded from my autoexec.bat file prior to the startup of Windows so  
that it is available to any process that requests it within Windows. I also  
utilize QEMM version 7.5 as a memory manager which is loaded in the

conventional manner through the config.sys file. It seems to give more memory to the BBS than EMM386/HIMEM.SYS or win95's default of no memory manager does. BPQ is configured to utilize com1 and com2 at their default irq and locations, and a baud rate of 9600. An internal modem not connected to the BBS runs in com3, irq5 with no degradation. FBB is set to allow 11 "channels" on 4 "tnc's". I use EMS memory for wp and two or 3 other BBS functions (not all), and init.srv is configured to allow the program to write direct to the screen. The "idle sensitivity" property is set at about its mid-point. The only negative I've discovered recently is that the BBS will run very slowly when I do a tape backup of the full system at the same time the BBS is running. I can live with that HI.

The BBS runs as a "window" rather than full screen, with all parameters that are settable in win95 at the default "auto" (windows gives it what it can).

Hope this helps

73 de Jim, K0JJV

---

## 6. [BBSSIG:1896] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:25:05 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082025.PAA15075@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jbrooks@netins.net  
Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

>  
> Return-Path: <bbssig@tapr.org>  
> Received: from sys1.tapr.org by ins.netins.net (MX V4.1 AXP) with SMTP; Fr  
> Sep 1995 23:22:11 CST  
> Received: from sys1.tapr.org (localhost [127.0.0.1]) by sys1.tapr.org  
> (8.6.12/8.6.9) with SMTP id VAA04402; Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:27:32  
> Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:27:32 -0500  
> Message-ID: <199509230214.VAA05626@zeus.ia.net>  
> Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Precedence: bulk  
> From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
> To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1877] Re: WIN95 a still a winner?  
> X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
> X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
> Content-Length: 2044  
> Content-Type: text  
> X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
>

> On Thu, 21 Sep 1995 jbrooks@netins.net wrote:  
> > >

> > Love it here! And unlike some, I haven't had any problems I can trace t  
> > bpq's "windows" version. Yes, there are some occasional problems, but m  
> > can be traced to a very elusive drive controller card. (I really ought  
> > replace the thing!)

> >  
> > 73 de Jim, K0JJV  
> >  
> >

> Jim, I did a real test and found that BPQ 4.08x would crash Win95  
> absolutely every time. I run a 486-66 IBM motherboard with 16 meg ram and  
> a 540 meg hd. svga 1 meg video card. Microsoft Office Pro is the big  
> software.

> Please tell us what you have that works.

> Now with ver 4.07b I have FBB running 24 hours a day with zero  
> crashes.

> -karl

>  
>  
> Karl I wish I knew! I do use QEMM 7.5 as a memory manager, I do have my  
windows swap file on a drive that'll give it LOTS of room, and I don't as  
yet use the full MS Office suite, although I plan to add it in the near  
future. Perhaps I'll find some problems then HI.

**7. [BBSSIG:1895] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)**

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:25:15 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199510082025.PAA15082@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jbrooks@netins.net  
 Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

>  
 > Return-Path: <bbssig@tapr.org>  
 > Received: from sys1.tapr.org by ins.netins.net (MX V4.1 AXP) with SMTP; Fr  
 > Sep 1995 23:13:41 CST  
 > Received: from sys1.tapr.org (localhost [127.0.0.1]) by sys1.tapr.org  
 > (8.6.12/8.6.9) with SMTP id VAA04372; Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:25:51  
 > Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:25:51 -0500  
 > Message-ID: <199509230214.VAA05612@zeus.ia.net>  
 > Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 > Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
 > Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
 > Precedence: bulk  
 > From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
 > To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 > Subject: [BBSSIG:1876] Re: WIN95 a still a winner?  
 > X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
 > X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
 > Content-Length: 1565  
 > Content-Type: text  
 > X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
 >  
 > The version I am using is 4.07b of the bpq switch. Think this  
 > version is still on the SOURCE, ftp.ucsd.edu but if not I will put it  
 > there again.  
 >  
 > Yes ANY 4.08x version will not work with Win95.  
 >  
 > -karl  
 >  
 >  
 >  
 bpq 4.08a works fine with win95 here!

73 de Jim, K0JJV

**8. [BBSSIG:1894] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)**

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
 Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:25:26 -0500 (CDT)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <199510082025.PAA15089@zeus.ia.net>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jbrooks@netins.net  
 Subject: Re: WIN95 a still a winner?

>  
 > Return-Path: <bbssig@tapr.org>  
 > Received: from sys1.tapr.org by ins.netins.net (MX V4.1 AXP) with SMTP; Fr  
 > Sep 1995 21:31:08 CST  
 > Received: from sys1.tapr.org (localhost [127.0.0.1]) by sys1.tapr.org  
 > (8.6.12/8.6.9) with SMTP id VAA04472; Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:30:19  
 > Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:30:19 -0500  
 > Message-ID: <199509230216.VAA05644@zeus.ia.net>  
 > Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 > Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
 > Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
 > Precedence: bulk  
 > From: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
 > To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 > Subject: [BBSSIG:1879] Re: WIN95 a still a winner?  
 > X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
 > X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
 > Content-Length: 1756  
 > Content-Type: text  
 > X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
 >

```

> >>
> >Love it here! And unlike some, I haven't had any problems I can trace to
> >bpq's "windows" version. Yes, there are some occasional problems, but mo
> >can be traced to a very elusive drive controller card. (I really ought t
> >replace the thing!)
> >
> >73 de Jim, K0JJV
> >
> Perhaps those who have managed to get BPQ to work with Win95 would be so
> kind to share some of the tricks. It just locks up for me no matter what
> mode I try it in.
> 73 - Ron VE1AIC
>
>
Ron - try using himem, or qemm as a memory manager, and try loading bpq in
high memory before win95 starts the GUI. I load bpqcode.exe high using
qemm's "loadhi", from my autoexec.bat file. If you're using bpq version
4.08a, be sure that bpqcode.386 is in your windows\system directory.

73 de Jim, K0JJV

```

## 9. [BBSSIG:1893] Re: Mailfiles missing! (fwd)

```

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:25:32 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199510082025.PAA15096@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jbrooks@netins.net
Subject: Re: Mailfiles missing!

>
> Return-Path: <bbssig@tapr.org>
> Received: from sys1.tapr.org by ins.netins.net (MX V4.1 AXP) with SMTP; Fr
> Sep 1995 21:29:57 CST
> Received: from sys1.tapr.org (localhost [127.0.0.1]) by sys1.tapr.org
> (8.6.12/8.6.9) with SMTP id VAA04453; Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:29:09
> Date: Fri, 22 Sep 1995 21:29:09 -0500
> Message-ID: <199509230215.VAA05636@zeus.ia.net>
> Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org
> Originator: bbssig@tapr.org
> Sender: bbssig@tapr.org
> Precedence: bulk
> From: JIM TANIS <jimtanis@ink.org>
> To: bbssig@tapr.org
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1878] Mailfiles missing!
> X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
> X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group
> Content-Length: 2332
> Content-Type: text
> X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]
>
> Hello;
>
> I am having a problem running FBB on my system. I am
> running FBB 5.15c, BPQ 4.08, under windows 95 (June preview
> version) on a Leading Edge 486DX33 with 8mb RAM. I have
> about 13mb free on the BBS drive, and between 170-200k on the
> FREE line on FBB.
>
> Intermittently, the BBS will start to loose the text of
> messages. When you read one of these messages, the text is
> replaced with the line (not quite this way, don't have it in
> front of me)
>
> FILE MISSING D:\FBB\MAIL\MAIL1\ (message filename)
>
> Once it starts doing this, it will continue till I re-
> boot FBB. I have tried to add a line in MFILTER.WRD to look
> for D:\FBB\MAIL\ to trap these, but MFILTER is not seeing
> that, or may possibly be the cause of the problem.
>
> Anyone have any ideas what might be causing the problem?
>
>
> By the way, the BBS seems to be running fine under
> WIN95. I see some bugs, but nothing to do with BBS
> operation.
>

```

```

> Thanks es 73!!
>
> --
> Jim Tanis
> 913 W. Blunt
> Downs, Ks 67437
>
> Amateur Radio Packet address : NX0R @ NX0R.#NCKS.KS.USA.NOAM
> Internet : jimtanis@ink.org
>
> -----
>
>
Jim, I have the same problem here on occasion. It seems to happen only when
there are 5 or 6 users on the system. I suspect that m_filter.exe is denied
permission to write to the drive, or perhaps has too many processes running.
I had the problem under win 3.1, and I have heard of the same problem in a
system running under DesqView. The only cure I've so far found is to reboot
(and kill off all the missing messages).

73 de Jim, K0JJV

```

## 10. [BBSSIG:1892] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

```

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:25:39 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199510082025.PAA15103@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:
>From testbarr Sun Oct 8 15:22:51 1995
From: Test account for Barry <testbarr>
Message-Id: <199510082022.PAA15004@zeus.ia.net>
Subject: [BBSSIG:1892] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)
To: barry (Barry Buelow WA0RJT)
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:22:50 -0500 (CDT)
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]
Content-Type: text
Content-Length: 1653

Forwarded message:
>From bbssig@tapr.org Mon Sep 25 13:29:16 1995
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 09:20:16 -0500
Message-Id: <199509251412.JAA22315@zeus.ia.net>
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org
Originator: bbssig@tapr.org
Sender: bbssig@tapr.org
Precedence: bulk
From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu>
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Subject: [BBSSIG:1892] Re: WIN95 a still a winner?
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group
Content-Length: 2453
Content-Type: text
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

On Sun, 24 Sep 1995, Ted Gervais wrote:

> supposed to be 32 bit software and now it turns out that it was only
> running on about 28 bits. ??? Isn't that something.

I found that my copy of Win 95 beta became very stable, once I installed QEMM
386. Isn't it strange that a 16 bit memory manager helped to stabilize a 32
bit os. Hmm...

Anyway, I like it. And I haven't had the problems other have been having
with BPQ under 95 beta. However, I don't run a full time PBBS on the 95
machine. That's still running under desqview and dos 6.2 on the 386...

I'll have to do more testing here with BPQ to see if it crashes for me...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX * Bloomsburg University *
* Internet: wlbarn@planetx.bloomu.edu * Bloomsburg, Pa *
* WWW: http://acwww.bloomu.edu/~wlbarn/ *****
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

```

\*\*\*\*\*

## 11. [BBSSIG:1891] winpak4.zip (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:25:46 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082025.PAA15110@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From testbarr Sun Oct 8 15:23:01 1995  
From: Test account for Barry <testbarr>  
Message-Id: <199510082023.PAA15012@zeus.ia.net>  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1891] winpak4.zip (fwd)  
To: barry (Barry Buelow WA0RJT)  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:23:00 -0500 (CDT)  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
Content-Type: text  
Content-Length: 3361

Forwarded message:

>From bbssig@tapr.org Mon Sep 25 13:40:53 1995  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 09:18:17 -0500  
Message-Id: <199509251411.JAA22308@zeus.ia.net>  
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
Precedence: bulk  
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1891] winpak4.zip  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
Content-Length: 2797  
Content-Type: text  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

I just read a bulletin on my bbs from England written by Mike, G0OPC and he said he has written a very capable packet radio bbs and individual user software with Visual Basic. I got the the subject file from the internet system demon.co.uk and placed it on ftp.ucsd.edu in the hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming directory. It will be there until Bryan moves it to the /packet/winpak directory.

Since I got it just moments ago I haven't set it up or printed the manual or ... ect. But next it will go into the hamradio file section of my telephone bbs which is 505 536-7177 and is available 24 hours a day 300 to 28,800 bps. Just log in and go to the file section. Then press d and select your best type of transfer mode (zmodem is by far the best) and ask for winpak4.zip and hope the lines are clear.

```

* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*

```

>From gwyn@paccomm.com Mon Sep 25 16:58:53 1995  
Received: from paccomm.com ([163.125.30.1]) by zeus.ia.net (8.6.10/8.6.9) with SMTP id QAA01371 for <barry@ia.net>; Mon, 25 Sep 1995 16:58:46 -0500  
Received: from paccomm.com by paccomm.com (TN051.11b14) with SMTP id AA25435 ; Mon, 25 Sep 95 17:50:33 UTC  
X-BBS-Msg-Type: P  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 95 17:48:02 UTC  
Message-Id: <6399@paccomm.com>  
From: gwyn@paccomm.com (Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL)  
To: barry  
Cc: gwyn

Subject: Contact Point for MNP-10 EC chipset  
Status: 0

Barry,

I don't know how Rockwell works but do know it is very large. Would you have a way to get us a point of contact for the modem chip set which has embedded MNP-10 and the Extended Cellular support?

We're excited about producing our own GPS when the chip sets are available, but there are several to pick from. For the moment, we have a customer ready to commission us to do a custom cellular modem, so that is why the interest in the modem chipset.

73,  
Gwyn

-----  
Gwyn Reedy, WIBEL      gwyn@paccomm.com      WIBEL@amsat.org

+ (813) 874-2980      Fax: + (813) 872-8696      BBS: + (813) 874-3078 (V.34)

PacComm Packet Radio Systems, Inc, 4413 N. Hesperides St, Tampa, FL 33614-7618

---

## 12. [BBSSIG:1890] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:25:53 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082025.PAA15117@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:  
>From testbarr Sun Oct 8 15:23:11 1995  
From: Test account for Barry <testbarr>  
Message-Id: <199510082023.PAA15020@zeus.ia.net>  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1890] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)  
To: barry (Barry Buelow WA0RJT)  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:23:10 -0500 (CDT)  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
Content-Type: text  
Content-Length: 3066

Forwarded message:  
>From bbssig@tapr.org Mon Sep 25 09:34:06 1995  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 09:16:47 -0500  
Message-Id: <199509251359.IAA22253@zeus.ia.net>  
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
Precedence: bulk  
From: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1890] Re: WIN95 a still a winner?  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
Content-Length: 3790  
Content-Type: text  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

> Well with egg on my face it is my duty to admitt to taking my  
>Win95 back to where I bought it and getting, no questions asked, cash  
>money back. The uninstall software with Win95 is truly the very best part  
>of it. So now back with windows 3.11 in which FBB and JNOS run just fine.  
>

> So I asked at Walden Software if many customers were returning  
>Win95. The store manager said "about 70% of what we sold we got back. We  
>will no longer stock Win95".  
>

>73, de karl k5di  
>

Well Karl I can respect your decision but I'm still moving ahead with Win95.  
As per your note I've downloaded BPQ4.07a from ftp.ucsd.edu and it does run  
under

Win95. Still some strange things happen and it doesnt always work. Yesterday  
it worked 100% but today it wont run from Start->Program->Dos\_prompt, just  
locks up no matter what configuration.  
So I tried grabbing DOS with the F8 at boot-up and ran BPQCODE from there OK.  
Then called WIN and Win95 came up no problem and left BPQ running.  
Getting real brave I tried some experiments and found that running PAC4 or  
FBB was no problem. Win95 did report a COM2 access conflict but allowed PAC4

or FBB to take control of the port no problem. They would run fine in a window or in the background.  
Now the real trick was to try shut down FBB/PAC4, switch my serial port cable from the tnc to the phone modem and start my MS Winsock Dial-Up client for Internet. As expected Win95 reported a port conflict but allowed Winsock to take over the COM port. I was able to PPP into Internet and get my mail. After logging off InterNet and closing MS Winsock I tried running PAC4 again. Was I surprised to see that Win95 allowed me access to BPQ again (after acknowledging the port conflict) no problem.

Since this PC is not my main BBS machine I dont have the need to run FBB or JNOS full-time on it but its nice to experiment with. At work I have been running Win95 from day-one..er actually day-3 (took that long to get it to install HI).

So far its been fun, occasional crashes when I tried something wierd but then there have been almost as many non-crashes when I tried things that would have brought down Win3.1.

So far, other than BPQ 4.08 and a few (old) DOS games, I hvn't found anything that wouldnt run on this PC...mind you some old DOS stuff may need to be run from the DOS boot mode but then they probably wouldnt run under Win3.1 either.  
The way I see it we still have DOS (7.0) capability even with Win95 when you really need it.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

### 13. [BBSSIG:1889] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:26:00 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510082026.PAA15124@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:

>From testbarr Sun Oct 8 15:23:21 1995  
From: Test account for Barry <testbarr>  
Message-Id: <199510082023.PAA15028@zeus.ia.net>  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1889] Re: WIN95 a still a winner? (fwd)  
To: barry (Barry Buelow WA0RJT)  
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:23:20 -0500 (CDT)  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]  
Content-Type: text  
Content-Length: 2486

Forwarded message:

>From bbssig@tapr.org Mon Sep 25 09:33:15 1995  
Date: Mon, 25 Sep 1995 09:13:52 -0500  
Message-Id: <199509251357.IAA22235@zeus.ia.net>  
Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Originator: bbssig@tapr.org  
Sender: bbssig@tapr.org  
Precedence: bulk  
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Subject: [BBSSIG:1889] Re: WIN95 a still a winner?  
X-Listprocessor-Version: 6.0 -- ListProcessor by Anastasios Kotsikonas  
X-Comment: Tucson Amateur Packet Radio BBS Special Interest Group  
Content-Length: 3262  
Content-Type: text  
X-Mailer: ELM [version 2.4 PL24]

On Sun, 24 Sep 1995, Ted Gervais wrote:

> On Sat, 23 Sep 1995 21:17:58 -0500,  
> Karl F. Larsen <bbssig@tapr.org> wrote:  
>  
> > Well with egg on my face it is my duty to admitt to taking my  
> >Win95 back to where I bought it and getting, no questions asked, cash  
> >money back. The uninstall software with Win95 is truly the very best part  
> >of it. So now back with windows 3.11 in which FBB and JNOS run just fine.  
> >  
> > So I asked at Walden Software if many customers were returning  
> >Win95. The store manager said "about 70% of what we sold we got back. We  
> >will no longer stock Win95".  
> >  
> >73, de karl k5di  
> >Good to see that people are doing this. Lots of Hype at first and next a  
> >price reduction.....they deserve this 'return' thing. Also, this was



```
> supposed to be 32 bit software and now it turns out that it was only
> running on about 28 bits. ??? Isn't that something.
> --
 What makes you think Win95 uses only 28 bits? The book and the
box both stated without further discussion that Win95 is 32 bit with
better interrupt use and my use confirmed Win95 is much faster than
Windows 3.11 on the same computer.
```

What Win95 will not do is run DOS programs well.

```

* 73, de karl k5di@k5di.nm.usa.na k5di.ampr.org k5di@acca.nmsu.edu *
*
* The only pbbs in Las Cruces, NM Telephone bbs 1:305/111 Fidonet *
* Using the F6FBB ver 5.15C Binkley mailer with Maximus 2.12 *
*
* Electrical Engineer with the Army Research Laboratory *
*

```

## 14. backed up msgsg

```
From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Sun, 8 Oct 1995 15:28:47 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199510082028.PAA15133@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

Hi folks,

I've been away for a couple of weeks and its not clear if things got forwarded properly on the BBSSIG. I'm sending what I had in my queue and may have resulted in some duplicates. I was just trying to get them all out.

Sorry for the confusion.

Karl, glad to read that you are having some progress with Win95. That's great. Please continue to provide details on how to do the setup.

73 Barry

## 15. [BBSSIG:1918] Re: Optional White Pages (fwd)

```
From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>
Date: Mon, 9 Oct 1995 18:34:59 -0500 (CDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199510092334.SAA22452@zeus.ia.net>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

```
Sender: hank_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)
Subject: Re: Optional White Pages
```

```
On Oct 8, 3:19pm, Bill Vodall wrote:
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1903] Optional White Pages
> Things have sure been quiet here lately... So, here's an old
> issue that will be very relevent to me in the next few weeks.
>
> I'll be leaving shortly on my annual fall pilgrimage to Colorado. It's
> an extended trip and I'll be there long enough to set up a packet
> system. Now, as long as I'm there, I won't be able to receive packet
> AX25 mail from folks in the local area. If they were to send a message
> to "wa7nwp@kf0uw.#neco.co.usa.noam" - any of the White Page servers on the
> systems that had my home address would ignore the Colorado address and
> sent the message to where I'm not. So I propose that the White Page
> servers should only re-address mail IF the address is sent with NO
> BBS address or a special address, (wa7nwp@wp) that essential says to
> look up and use the stored address.
```

In the "RLI code" the sysop has the option to set it either way.

```
>
> Having the addresses is a good thing - but sometimes the user knows
> better.
```

It is the user who provides the address ...

```
>
> Thoughts? Comments? Or am I confused on this? It appears the message
```

> I just entered for a test is on its way out of state. It'll be interesting  
> to see what happens to it.

I hope you changed your address BEFORE you left for Colorado.

Otherwise your previous home bbs will not know where to forward  
messages that arrive there.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.OR.USA.NOAM

---

## 16. [BBSSIG:1920] PBBS software that also sup (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 10 Oct 1995 09:53:32 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510101453.JAA28262@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Scott Szretter" <Scott\_Szretter@eesco.com>  
Subject: PBBS software that also sup

PBBS software that also supports land line modems?  
I am looking for PBBS software that will support both a TNC, and 1 or 2 Landline  
modems (telephone modems) for access.

I found some software called FBB that looks like it supports this, but so far it  
seems VERY hard to setup.

I am looking for software to run on a DOS machine.  
I also have a mac if there is anything available for that.

Any help is greatly appreciated.

Thanks!

Scott Szretter N1VAN  
ss@eesco.com

---

## 17. [BBSSIG:1922] Re: PBBS software that also sup (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 10 Oct 1995 18:42:48 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510102342.SAA00271@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: W2HOB@aol.com  
Subject: Re: PBBS software that also sup

For Scott\_Szretter@eesco.com

Contact Brian Riley KA2BQE, PO Box 188, Underhill Center VT 05490-0188  
(802-899-9922)  
or KA2BQE@KA2BQE.#NWVT.VT.USA.NOAM

He wrote one of the most powerful bbs's called Packet Radio MailBox System  
(PRMBS) which is  
rich in features, some advanced beyond other systems out there, excellent for  
the SYSOP and  
user alike... It can run with or without BPQ, DesqView etc...

I know you'll get opinions galore and I could possibly suffer a flame or two  
as everyone favors  
their particular system, but call Brian and talk it over with him. I'm a beta  
tester along with a  
bunch more in SNJ. Tell him Boyd W2HOB sent you.

73 de Boyd (W2HOB@aol.com)  
W2HOB@W2HOB.#SNJ.NJ.USA.NOAM

---

## 18. [BBSSIG:1923] RE: PBBS software that also sup (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 10 Oct 1995 18:43:03 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510102343.SAA00278@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>  
Subject: RE: PBBS software that also sup

Scott...

Most of the major bbs software supports modem. It is only a matter of configuring each bbs port correctly. I use AA4RE v.2.1r (2.13 beta) with no problems while others use MSYS, W0RLI, FBB, etc. It all depends on what your needs are and how you see the initial setup/config. For me, AA4RE was relatively easy to set up, as is MSYS. I've no experience with any of the others, but do agree that FBB is a bear - hi! Good luck!

73, Ed, K1BYV

---

## 19. [BBSSIG:1927] Re: BBSSIG digest 275 (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 10 Oct 1995 22:08:42 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510110308.WAA01297@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: jwt@shrine.cyber.ad.jp (Jim Tittsler)  
Subject: Re: BBSSIG digest 275

In article <199510102051.PAA21971@sys1.tapr.org>, you wrote:  
> PBBS software that also supports land line modems?  
> I am looking for PBBS software that will support both a TNC, and 1 or 2 Landline  
> modems (telephone modems) for access.

The MSYS PBBS supports modem callers. You can obtain it from  
coffman.csuohio.edu (root directory) or from ftp.ucsd.edu  
(/hamradio/packet).

The latest version is 1.19. (You need to install version 1.18 first.  
1.19 installs on top and replaces a few of the files.)

73, Jim 7J1AJH/AI8A

--

Jim Tittsler, Tokyo 7j1ajh@amsat.org <URL:http://shrine.cyber.ad.jp/~jwt/>

---

## 20. [BBSSIG:1929] Re: PBBS software that also sup (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 11 Oct 1995 07:22:27 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510111222.HAA05381@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY" <tburton@wolfdenswsc.k12.ar.us>  
Subject: Re: PBBS software that also sup

> Date: Tue, 10 Oct 1995 10:01:07 -0500  
> Reply-to: bbssig@tapr.org  
> From: "Scott Szretter" <Scott\_Szretter@eesco.com>  
> To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:1921] PBBS software that also sup  
  
> PBBS software that also supports land line modems?  
> I am looking for PBBS software that will support both a TNC, and 1 or 2 Landline  
> modems (telephone modems) for access.  
>  
> I found some software called FBB that looks like it supports this, but so far it  
> seems VERY hard to setup.  
>  
> I am looking for software to run on a DOS machine.  
> I also have a mac if there is anything available for that.  
>  
> Any help is greatly appreciated.  
>  
> Thanks!  
>  
> Scott Szretter N1VAN  
> ss@eesco.com  
>

Scott I am running MSYS, it is available from the Tapr FTP. My system is set up for 2 TNC ports and one modem port. Examples of all setup files are in the docs that is on the disk. It supports FBB type forwarding and plain text protocol between BBS's.

73 De Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY  
600 Rosston Road / Prescott AR 71857-2505 / 501-887-6088  
Amateur Packet Radio: KB5ILY @ KB5ILY.SWAR.AR.USA.NOAM  
Internet: tburton@wolfden.swsc.k12.ar.us  
WWW: wolfden.swsc.k12.ar.us/~tburton/

---

## 21. [BBSSIG:1931] Win95 Problems (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 11 Oct 1995 18:34:54 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510112334.SAA09959@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Win95 Problems

I have loaded and unloaded Win-95 3 times in the past month, and learn more each time I do so but still not able to get it working well. So I decided to write down what has happened and what the cause of the problem might be.

The first load was done using the "typical" setup and was loaded over my current windows 3.11 system. I learned to turn off the virus checker and make a larger uncompressed drive. It came up running! Then it started to Crash often (every hour or so) and my problems multiplied to a point where the computer was down more than up. NOS would fail and crash the entire computer.

The NOS problem was most strange since it ran in windows 3.11 with some minor problems but not major like in Win-95. So I unloaded the software and went back to 3.11

WB9TEV, Dan got his NOS to run well under Win-95 so I again loaded Win-95 and tried it again. For some unexplained reason I was never able to get ANYTHING to run reliably this time. So after 2 days I unloaded Win-95 and back to 3.11. I asked Dan what he did and he sent me a 3 page smtp on the subject. It was very complex and I didn't understand what he said.

I took the Win-95 back and got a refund. Then I got to thinking about a real good way to load the software. So I bought it back and this time I loaded Win-95 on a hard drive with just 3 files, the DOS 6.2 system. It loaded using the "Typical" just fine and was working just Super! Of course nothing was loaded except that which was loaded from the disks for Win-95.

Next I loaded the BPQ Switch by making a autoexec.bat file that turned it on before Windows came up. This worked fine but when BPQ tried to send nodes through com3 Win-95 crashed. I did some testing and made sure it was a Hardware conflict which was crashing Win-95. I looked in "My Computer" and found that I could delete com3. I did so and then the BPQ Switch worked fine.

Next I loaded the FBB software. It started out working fine but got worse as time passed. For some reason FBB could not talk to the BPQ well at all. I was away to a hamfest and it crashed and stayed down 2 days.

Also a major problem. I needed to load the BPQ and mouse.sys and others into high memory. There is ZERO documentation on how to do this. I searched for memmaker.exe but it was not on the computer. In a bad mood I was forced to re-load my old system from a tape backup. This is where I am today.

I asked Dan where he found memmaker.exe and he said it was on his CD-ROM but it was not loaded off to his computer. He did so and used it and is happy with the results. Problem: I don't know if it is even ON the disks! But without it there can be no Win-95 working with DOS programs.

The next time I load Win-95 I will again do it to a clean disk but insist on a custom load and get it to load EVERYTHING! Then if I find memmaker.exe and some other files critical to DOS

programs on the hard drive I will proceed further.

As a final note, if you do not have Win-95 as you read this, I suggest you not buy it. The price is not excessive but the problems you will have with DOS programs will make you ill. The problems are far greater than the advantages. Wait for a new version with good documentation. May be another year or more but worth the wait.

- karl. k5di <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu> Telephone BBS (505) 526-7177  
k5di@k5di.cruces.nm.usa.noam  
Las Cruces, NM

---

## 22. Karl and Win95

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 11 Oct 1995 18:38:21 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510112338.SAA09981@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl,

I'm glad to read that you are continuing to do battle with Win95 and appreciate you providing details to the SIG. Even though you

---

## 23. [BBSSIG:1935] Win95 Blues (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 14 Oct 1995 09:48:30 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510141448.JAA01379@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sender: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Subject: Win95 Blues

Well time to update my experience with win95. I read assist.exe and it gave some incomplete (it turned out) information on running a dual boot setup. I have a large hard drive so this looked good.

And it IS good. I can switch between win 3.11 and 95 in less than 5 minutes. I have the 5 DOS based applications running under both operating systems. Among them is the FBB packet radio and BPQ Switch software.

With some problem I have everything functioning in win95 but not well. I have a lot of small problems. And a big one. The big one is this: When win95 comes up both FBB and JNOS run fine and connect to the BPQ Switch without a peoblem. As time passes the packet route through com3 gets slower and almost quits! But the other ports that exit via a DRSI card continue to work just fine.

Yesterday I purchased the HUGE book Microsoft Windows 95 Resource Kit. It looks good. It names files that control hardware and software operation. And a lot more. I think the book will teach me how to run win95. And then it WILL run.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 24. more Win95

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 14 Oct 1995 09:53:35 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510141453.JAA01395@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Somehow I managed to cut off part of my last message.

I was complementing Karl on his digging into Win95 and thanking him for posting his results. This is the kind of activity that shows how good the BBSSIG can really be.

Are there any other Sysops out there wokring on Win95? Please post a short note with your results. One key to success is having a large number of people each contribute one small bit of information.

Do we have any subscribers in the UK that are able to contact G8BPQ to see what he knows about Win95?

Thanks again, Karl.

73 Barry

---

## 25. Win95 Adjustments

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 16 Oct 1995 09:14:39 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510161514.JAA15992@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

### THE DEEPEST SECRETS OF WINDOWS 95 Windows 95 Registry Part 1

People like myself who have installed Windows 95 (w95) many times become frustrated by the many faces w95 shows after it is installed. It became clear after loading over windows 3.11 and over only DOS 6.2 that the Wizards of setup and hardware discovery were saving this information somewhere. But a quick search found nothing that looked like win.ini and system.ini except those files do exist in w95. I later find out that these files are made only for compatability with older windows software. W95 gets no setup information from them.

I was one of the first to ask why JNOS would not work well at all under w95. While that was the case during the first time I loaded w95, subsequent loads run JNOS at least as well as windows 3.1.1 ever did. But every load so far has lacked something. important to my unusual setup requirements.

In fact it was a similar problem a few years ago with windows 3.1. Getting the FBB packet radio bbs and JNOS and Telephone BBS to all run at the same time under windows multitasking seemed impossible. But with time we discovered things in books and words that fixed the problems. So it is not a surprise that w95 also has things stored in files on the hard drive that tell the operating system how to act. But what does surprise me is how little has been said about those used by w95.

"Microsoft Windows 95 Resource Kit", Microsoft Press, \$49.99 is a large book with over 1000 pages that includes a CD-ROM with additional information is the first place I found the setup method fully explained. Beginning on page 965, Chapter 31 "Windows 95 Architecture" this book explains how w95 is designed and you get a feel for how powerful the system is. In Chapter 33 the w95 Registry is discussed at length but not to the extent we Hams will require.

The book explains how to display the w95 control files, change them and save them. What is lacking is knowledge of what the files are doing. So here is where I am today. The Registry is many directories each with many files in them. They make no sense to a human if you just look at them with DOS Edit or other such device.

But there is a application provided by Microsoft that is designed to let a human work with the many files. The application is REGEDIT.EXE and is stored in your \WINDOWS directory. The best way to use this application is to turn on the Windows Explorer and display this file. Then with the right mouse button drag the file to the desktop. Then you will have it anytime you need it.

From the edit menu you can use a "Find" function that is useful. It will search for a partial or complete word or data that your looking for. When it is displayed you can delete it, or change it or leave it as it was. This application was written so Hams can change w95 to run odd things like the BPQ Switch.

For those looking for complete safety while experimenting, it is possible and recommended that you save your current "working" files in a large flat plain DOS format file. You can do this using the regedit window and

selecting the save function. Remember which directory you put it in...

Now you can play with the files and do things. If w95 fails to come up you then boot from your w95 disaster floppy disk and replace the flawed control files with the older ones that work. This cycle can take less than 15 minutes after you get good at it.

I hope this will save others from needing to buy that \$49.99 book. It is a monster but it does have some real good information. When more information on how the numbers work and such are found I will put out part 2 of this paper.

Monday, October 16, 1995  
Karl F. Larsen

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 26. Baycom modems & G8BPQ (fwd)

From: Dave Wolf <wo5h>  
Date: Tue, 17 Oct 1995 06:46:51 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510171146.GAA11431@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Forwarded message:  
>From: wmn3@dfw.net Mon Oct 16 12:42:39 1995  
Date: Mon, 16 Oct 95 12:40:04 CDT  
Message-Id: <9510161740.AA00643@dfw.net>  
X-Sender: wmn3@dfw.net (Unverified)  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"  
To: wo5h@tapr.org  
From: wmn3@dfw.net (William Neal)  
Subject: Baycom modems & G8BPQ  
X-Mailer: <PC Eudora Version 1.4b17>

Hello Sir,  
I was wondering if the Baycom modem will work with the G8BPQ node and AA4RE BBS software? I'm very interested in using a Baycom type modem as one of the ports on my AA4RE BBS.

I can't seem to find a software driver that would work with the node/BBS software... However, when I was stationed in the U.K., I did use my Baycom modem with G8BPQ and JNOS...

Any suggestions? Thank you in advance, Bill Neal - N0NSA/G70AQ

---

## 27. RE: [BBSSIG:1939] Baycom modems & G8BPQ (fwd)

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>  
Date: Tue, 17 Oct 1995 14:43:56 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <951017144357.465bd@ids.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Bill...

If you can use the Baycom modem with g8bpq software, then there is no problem with the bpq/4re combination because the aa4re software interfaces with g8bpq and the bpq software interfaces with the tnc running in KISS. Both the aa4re and g8bpq docs discuss the 4re/bpq interfacing and the bpq docs, of course, deal with the kiss mode tnc. If you run into problems, send me your bpqcfg.txt and parms.bb files and I will see if I can sort things out.

73, Ed, K1BYV

---

## 28. Re: [BBSSIG:1939] Baycom modems & G8BPQ (fwd)

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 17 Oct 1995 14:50:31 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510172050.0AA27366@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Hello Sir,  
>I was wondering if the Baycom modem will work with the G8BPQ node and AA4RE

>BBS software? I'm very interested in using a Baycom type modem as one of  
>the ports on my AA4RE BBS.  
>  
>I can't seem to find a software driver that would work with the node/BBS  
>software...

However, when I was stationed in the U.K., I did use my Baycom  
>modem with G8BPQ and JNOS...

Well Bill, if you recall how to connect the BPQ Switch to the  
Baycaom modem do so and tell this sig how you did it. It is trivial to  
connect Hank's bbs software to BPQ. You just make as many software com ports  
as you plan to run copies of the bbs software.

>  
>Any suggestions? Thank you in advance, Bill Neal - N0NSA/G70AQ  
>  
>  
>  
Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 29. OS/2 & G8BPQ

From: michelle\_yirchott@comsys.rockwell.com  
Date: Tue, 17 Oct 95 18:04:50 CST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9509178139.AA813978315@SmtPSend.comsys.rockwell.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Recently, I downloaded a set of 'C' routines from the TAPR Software Library  
for writing code to work with the G8BPQ node software. I wrote a small test  
program and using a Microsoft C compiler, linked it with BPQ.OBJ. Everything  
runs fine, but I am limited to a DOS environment. I would like to run with  
the OS/2 WARP version of G8BPQ, but I am having problems getting BPQ.OBJ to  
link using OS/2's C/SET++ compiler. Any suggestions? Is this possible?

Thanks for any help, Michelle Yirchott, KC5QGJ

---

## 30. Re: [BBSSIG:1941] Re: Baycom modems & G8BPQ (fwd)

From: "Clarke L. Diekmann" <diekmann@crl.com>  
Date: Tue, 17 Oct 1995 19:24:12 -0700 (PDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951017191732.13667C-100000@crl7.crl.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

To Bill, N0NSA...

I heard you were back in town... What are you looking for? I run a copy  
of AA4RE on my laptop talking to BPQ which, in turn, talks to a driver  
called AX25BPQ which drives the Baycom DB-9 modem. Is that what you are  
interested in?? I could send you the file via IFP's BBS in R95 or 7Plus  
format...

73, Clarke, K3WGF

---

## 31. Re: [BBSSIG:1941] Re: Baycom modems & G8BPQ (fwd)

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <n3jix@epix.net>  
Date: Wed, 18 Oct 1995 13:53:23 -0400 (EDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951018134959.13613A-100000@mango.epix.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 17 Oct 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> Baycaom modem do so and tell this sig how you did it. It is trivial to

I think there is a packet driver out ther for the Baycom modem for G8BPQ.  
You load it as a "External" driver at a certain Interrupt. I don't have a  
baycom, so I never tried this, I just have the driver somewhere...

> connect Hank's bbs software to BPQ. You just make as many software com ports  
> as you plan to run copies of the bbs software.

FYI:

Not with 18.X. You make as many ports as you need for everything you  
want to run, load up YTNC with the amount of ports you want, and save a



few for other apps like RT, or Moitor... Plus, now RLI loads a user window only when it hears a connect request.. Really efficient on memory this way...

```
73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX
* Internet: n3jix@epix.net
* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam

```

---

## 32. Win95 Info Part 2

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 19 Oct 1995 13:20:27 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510191920.NAA04898@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Windows 95

How it works  
Part 2

Well I have not learned how to change the registry files. I did learn this part. If you want to LOAD a registry file from DOS using the Win-95 Start-up floppy you made, do NOT use what I did. This is what I used, pulled directly from the Microsoft Windows 95 Resource book:

```
regedit /L:c:\win95 /R:c:\win95 /c c:\apl\win95~1.reg
```

The effect of this work was to transfer the win95 directory and all sub-directories to a new directory \ALBPCIFN and I later found it made \win95 a file win95 in the root directory of my computer. It completely destroyed my win95 system. They did say to do this with care.....

Perhaps I didn't need the c: part or something....but it sure did not work! Well I then loaded win95 over my windows 3.11 setup and it came up Working! Just like last time. I was very happy. In the win95 regedit program I saved another copy of this working registry files and that worked fine.

I looked in the documents "folder" and saw the regedit file I made and clicked on it. The computer stopped and churned a bit and a window popped up telling me that the registry file had been loaded successfully! So this is far and away the best way to load and unload these control files.

As I said the win95 loaded just fine over my windows 3.11 and came on working. Well that is in a manner of speaking what happened. But as time passed things began to degenerate. The win95 was not stable. When I asked NOS to do something through the packet switch using com3 it would fail, and crash the entire computer, not just NOS.

### WIN-95 Failure Mode

This failure mode in win95 is exactly this: If you load a TSR before you load win95 from the autoexec.bat or config.sys files that uses a com port, it will not work, period! I want to get this information to Microsoft but will not pay \$35 to do it.

In Windows 3.11 I correct the problem by going to the Enhanced icon in the Control Panel Group and telling it that com3 is NEVER WARM. That causes Windows to not try and use com3 in conflict with the TSR. Works swell!

WIN-95 has a curious problem. If I load it over windows 3.11 with the TSR in the autoexec.bat file it tries to set it up, but fails. When I loaded it earlier this week it loaded but when windows came up the first time it turned on the TSR and was doing the usual things but failed and crashed before it got to setting up the modem and other stuff. When I brought it up the second time it ran well for about an hour. The things using the TSR seemed to be working

fine. But it crashed. And crashed. And crashed.

I loaded win95 in a dual boot mode. There I had win95 running OR windows 3.11 running. WIN95 was stable and ran all the DOS programs fine, but as soon as I loaded the TSR it crashed EVERY TIME. I went to My Computer and deleted com3. That was easy and was a success! No more crashes and it was stable, but alas the programs using the TSR could not reach it. It was nice but I can't use it.

#### Bottom Line

If you are using anything like the BPQ Switch TSR in your current setup, DO NOT buy win95. It will NOT work and you will get the same information I am writing now.

If your running a TNC going From a window through a com port that will work fine. You can have lots of TNC's without a problem providing they are all connected to from a single window.

I am back to windows 3.11 which runs fine. I have Microsoft Pro which I am writing this in, my FBB packet BBS, NOS and my Telephone BBS all running as I type this. I will never load win95 again unless someone can tell me exactly how to make it work with my configuration.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

### 33. Win95

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 19 Oct 1995 20:17:34 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510200117.UAA09280@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl,

Well at least you gave it a good try. I know some people doing some realtime aircraft simulation models and I'll see if they have looked into Win95.

It's probably good that you stop before having a heart attack and ruining your retirement!

Thanks for posting your results. It is good work.

73 Barry

---

### 34. Re: [BBSSIG:1792] Need help with LSERV

From: n5pvl@texoma.com (Charles Brabham)  
Date: Tue, 24 Oct 1995 14:21:33 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510241921.OAA03894@mercury.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Accordinmg to Gary, a while back...

>I have just obtained LSERV 1.06 from Dan, N7MRP. I'm having nothing but  
>trouble with it. Since I have put it on two computers and have the same  
>trouble with both, I can only assume I have it setup wrong. I know others  
>are running it, so I'm assuming it isn't a problem with the program.  
>  
>

Did you ever get it to fly, Gary? If so, what's the "secret"?

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

It crawled into my hand.. Honest!

---

### 35. Re: [BBSSIG:1947] Re: Need help with LSERV

From: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr.)  
Date: Wed, 25 Oct 1995 06:50:03 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9510250644.tf@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>

Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 24 Oct 1995 14:26:12 -0500, you wrote:

>Accordingm to Gary, a while back...

>>I have just obtained LSERV 1.06 from Dan, N7MRP. I'm having nothing but  
>>trouble with it. Since I have put it on two computers and have the same  
>>trouble with both, I can only assume I have it setup wrong. I know others  
>>are running it, so I'm assuming it isn't a problem with the program.

>Did you ever get it to fly, Gary? If so, what's the "secret"?

>73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

Sorry, Chuck. The answer is no. I wish I had. The cure for me, since no one ever came forward with a working solution, was to use RMAILER. It works well, but not as nicely as I think LSERV worked (for those who made it work). I'm still looking for the answer. However, I have already started the list I was interested in running, so don't have an immediate need. I wouldn't want to ask those who are signed up to start over now with new syntax. I would like to get it working so that the next time, should there be one, I'll know how.

Gary McDuffie, Sr. - AG0N - Scottsbluff, NE  
Internet: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us  
Packet Radio: AG0N@AG0N.#WNE.NE.USA.NOAM

---

## 36. 7PSERV questions

From: ferracci@imaginet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Wed, 25 Oct 1995 20:32:45 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510252132.WAA06724@icaria.imagnet.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi all,

First of all, i heard that 7PSERV V4 from SM0NC5 had been released.  
Does someone know where i could find it ?  
Does someone know how to contact SM0NC5 ?

-

I also have a problem with 7PSERV V3.3:

We are running a CD-ROM on our local BBS, so i need to configure both  
C:\fbb\users\yapp and d:\ to be accessible to the 7pserv user.

Here's a part of my 7PSERV.CFG:

```
Fifth row is what directory the server should get files from
Multiple directories could be set seperated by ; OBS max 10
they are refered to by the user as a:,b:,c: etc... *=unused
the first one must be defined and should be the one used as
default if no other is specified
C:\fbb\users\yapp\,*,*,D:\
```

(i know that i put some , instead of recommended ; but that seems to  
be an error in the doc as even the given example is using , )

When i ask for D:\test.txt, i receive an error report.

Any idea ?

```
+-----+-----+
| From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ | > ferracci@imaginet.fr < |
| Montpellier, FRANCE | F1JKJ @F1RVP.FMLR.FRA.EU |
+-----+-----+
```

[ PGP key on public-key servers ]

---

## 37. Re: [BBSSIG:1949] 7PSERV questions

From: "hubert.riera" <7906t@haillan.sep-haillan.fr>  
Date: Thu, 26 Oct 1995 10:21:57 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9510261021.ZM800@haillan.sep-haillan.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Oct 25, 4:34pm, Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ wrote:  
 > Subject: [BBSSIG:1949] 7PSERV questions  
 > Hi all,  
 >  
 > First of all, i heard that 7PSERV V4 from SM0NCS had been released.  
 > Does someone know where i could find it ?  
 > Does someone know how to contact SM0NCS ?  
 > -  
 > I also have a problem with 7PSERV V3.3:  
 >  
 > We are running a CD-ROM on our local BBS, so i need to configure both  
 > C:\fbb\users\yapp and d:\ to be accessible to the 7pserv user.  
 >  
 > Here's a part of my 7PSERV.CFG:  
 >  
 > # Fifth row is what directory the server should get files from  
 > # Multiple directorys could be set seperated by ; OBS max 10  
 > # they are refered to by the user as a:,b:,c: etc... \*=unused  
 > # the first one must be defined and should be the one used as  
 > # default if no other is specified  
 > C:\fbb\users\yapp\\*,\*,D:\  
 >  
 > (i know that i put some , instead of recommended ; but that seems to  
 > be an error in the doc as even the given example is using , )  
 >  
 > When i ask for D:\test.txt, i receive an error report.  
 >  
 > Any idea ?  
 >  
 >  
 >  
 > +-----+-----+  
 > | From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ | > ferracci@imaginet.fr < |  
 > | Montpellier, FRANCE | F1JKJ @F1RVP.FMLR.FRA.EU |  
 > +-----+-----+  
 >  
 > [ PGP key on public-key servers ]  
 >-- End of excerpt from Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ

Bonjour Laurent ,  
 Try to put a message to F10NT or F50KE f6kpw.faqi.fr he have doing somethink  
 similare  
 so all my best from Bordeaux F5lct

### 38. BBS with Baycom modem

From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@primenet.com>  
 Date: Fri, 27 Oct 1995 18:20:08 -0700 (MST)  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951027181644.775B-100000@nielsen.tus.primenet.com>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

Some recently sent a letter to the TAPR office asking about a suitable BBS program which supported a Baycom modem. Dorothy forwarded the message to me, but I do not have the answer. Could someone on the list please let me know if any of the common BBS programs support Baycom (I know that JNOS with the AX25.COM driver will, but that is probably a lot more than this fellow wants to get into.) I have sent in a subscribe request to this group, but please reply directly, as well.

Thanks, Bob

-----  
 Bob Nielsen Internet: nielsen@primenet.com  
 Tucson, AZ AMPRnet: w6swe@w6swe.ampr.org  
 http://www.primenet.com/~nielsen AX.25: w6swe@wb7tls.az.usa.noam

### 39. Re: [BBSSIG:1951] BBS with Baycom modem

From: ferracci@imaginet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
 Date: Sat, 28 Oct 1995 06:34:29 GMT  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Cc: nielsen@primenet.com  
 Message-ID: <199510280734.IAA25091@icaria.imagnet.fr>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 27 Oct 1995 20:27:52 -0500, you wrote:

>Could someone on the list  
 >please let me know if any of the common BBS programs support Baycom

Any BBS program supporting WA8DED host-mode TNCs should be able to run with a baycom !

It is just needed to load a "driver" (TF-emulator) like TFPCX or TFX.

We have one of our BBS ports running on a baycom here. That works well...

```
-- +-----+
-- | From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ | > ferracci@imaginet.fr < |
-- | Montpellier, FRANCE | F1JKJ @F1RVP.FMLR.FRA.EU |
-- +-----+
--
-- [PGP key on public-key servers]
```

---

#### 40. RE: BBS's and Baycom Type Modems

From: Phillip Conza <z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Sat, 28 Oct 1995 21:49:49 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951028213926.12005B-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Bob asks about running Baycom Type Modems but didn't state what BBS software he/they were using..

I run FBB 5.15c and have a mixture of TNCs, Baycom Type Modems and DRSI cards and all run very happy together..

For the Baycom Modems I use AX25EXT Driver ...

Warning !!! Several users have found with some of the Newer PCs available today that they can't run more than 2 Baycom Modems, now we only think that this is a BIOS problem.. We have tried several PCs of 1995 vintage and the results where the same..

I will post the BIOS's that have been tried later as I don't have them here at the moment..

They can run 2 Baycom and 2 TNCs ok..

Hope this info is of help..

73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

#### 41. Re: [BBSSIG:1952] Re: BBS with Baycom modem

From: Greg Jones <gjones@tenet.edu>  
Date: Sat, 28 Oct 1995 05:15:57 -0500 (CDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199510281015.FAA07724@Joyce-Perkins.tenet.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Bob -- have you tried looking at the BayCom on the Web ?

Cheers - Greg

---

# November 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9511

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9511](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9511)

## 1. BBSSIG messages, any?????

From: N5EJS@linknet.net (Russell Gauthier)  
Date: Sun, 12 Nov 1995 20:29:33 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9511130234.AA07345@linknet.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I haven't seen any messages from the list in many days. Has everyone moved to other areas or gone to private mail? I really enjoyed the range of subjects and even though I don't run a BBS, I learned a lot about packet and the different uses. Maybe there is a new list on the block or something?? I never had anything to contribute being a user and not a Sysop, but even a user could learn quite a bit just by following the threads. Maybe my provider has a problem receiving from the list or something. Just wondering.

de N5EJS  
Russ in LA

de N5EJS #1525  
Russ in La.

---

## 2. Re: [BBSSIG:1955] BBSSIG messages, any?????

From: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Date: Sun, 12 Nov 1995 20:20:21 -0800  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511130420.UAA11115@slip-1.slip.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Russ, N5EJS wrote:  
>I haven't seen any messages from the list in many days.

I haven't either, Russ, and have also been wondering what happened. At least the listserver seems to be working, so apparently there hasn't been any discussion of late.

To possibly start a bit of conversation, I'm wondering what the status is on the new F6FBB Windows software. I heard several months ago that it was out for Beta testing, but I haven't heard anything since then. Does anyone have any information on the progress being made?

73, Larry  
WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
lkenney@slip.net  
San Francisco

---

## 3. Re: [BBSSIG:1955] BBSSIG messages, any?????

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <n3jix@epix.net>  
Date: Sun, 12 Nov 1995 23:26:26 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951112232313.17907B-100000@peach.epix.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 12 Nov 1995, Russell Gauthier wrote:

> on the block or something?? I never had anything to contribute being  
> a user and not a Sysop, but even a user could learn quite a bit just  
> by following the threads. Maybe my provider has a problem receiving from  
> the list or something. Just wondering.

No, just busy here... I usually lurk here as well with the list. Things are busy around here. I fixed up my UHF forwarding port here, upgraded to W0RLI 19.4 Mailbox, tested some nodes for a friend, fixed a few bugs, and generally was busy with all the other non fun stuff that I have to do to support my addiction to packet radio...

Hmm, A User wanting to learn... Does your local PBBS run W0RLI as the software of choice? OR FBB? Karl wrote a very good user manual for FBB, and I modified it for W0RLI Users. Interested in being an evaluator before I send it out to my users?

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \*  
\* Internet: n3jix@epix.net \*  
\* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/ \*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

#### 4. BBS/pc compatability

From: Mike Berg <i532271@willmar.com>  
Date: Mon, 13 Nov 95 05:42:13 PST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.951113063241.mikeberg@>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

-----  
Name: Mike Berg  
E-mail: mikeberg@willmar.com (Mike Berg)  
Ham Radio: N0QBH@N0QBH.#wcmn.mn.usa.noam  
Date: 11/13/95  
Time: 05:42:13

This message was sent by Chameleon

-----  
Greetings. As we finally received access to the Internet out here  
in the wilds of Minnesota a month ago, I'm still quite new to the process.

I run a W0RLI ver 18.5 BBS here which recently upgraded from two to  
three ports in order to cover for a former sysop who quit. When I added the  
third port, my troubles began. The pc was a 386sx-16 w/2 MB RAM and a built  
in serial port, to which I added a BOCA 16550 serial card. The system's  
original configuration was two BPQ 9k6 ports, one 2m user the other UHF  
backbone. As far as I could tell, there was never any problem. When the  
local 1k2 BBS hung it up, I added a 1k2 2m port to fill in the gap.  
At that point the problems started. In standard KISS mode, the ports had a  
tendency to hang and the MH command showed calls heard on the wrong port.  
I might add that each port had a separate address and IRQ.

Acting on a suggestion, I tried using BPQKISS w/separately addressed  
EPROMS and changed the BPQ configuration accordingly. This eliminated the  
hangs and cross talk between ports, but also caused the system to crash  
unpredictably, usually with memory conflict errors. I fought with this  
problem, adjusting almost everything possible, without results.

Finally, last week, I moved the BBS hard drive to another computer,  
this time a 386sx-33 w/4 MB RAM and no built in ports. I'm still using the  
BOCA 2 port serial card with my two user ports sharing COM 1 with a BPQKISS  
diode matrix cable and my UHF backbone on COM 2, also using BPQKISS.  
Since the move, performance has been flawless. What I'm wondering is, has  
this happened to other sysops? Are some pc's just not compatible with BBS  
software?

73 Mike

---

#### 5. Zipped Bulletins

From: ac191@detroit.freenet.org (James Haight)  
Date: Mon, 13 Nov 1995 07:52:19 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511131252.HAA04196@detroit.freenet.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am looking for an Internet site that zipped bulletins can be downloaded  
from... I had been getting the bulletins from F6CNB, but have not been  
able to connect to his site for the last three weeks or so... Thanks...

--  
Jim - WW8Q  
ac191@detroit.freenet.org

---

#### 6. Re: [BBSSIG:1959] Zipped Bulletins

From: Greg Jones <wd5ivd@tapr.org>  
Date: Mon, 13 Nov 1995 08:06:19 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511131406.IAA24650@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Someone requested that TAPR do this -- but our server doesn't have the  
bandwidth capacity currently to do it. Maybe in another 6 months.

Hopefully someone else will pickup what Remi was doing.

Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD

>  
>  
>  
> I am looking for an Internet site that zipped bulletins can be downloaded  
> from... I had been getting the bulletins from F6CNB, but have not been  
> able to connect to his site for the last three weeks or so... Thanks...  
>  
>  
> --  
> Jim - WW8Q  
> ac191@detroit.freenet.org  
>  
>  
>  
>

---

## 7. Re: [BBSSIG:1960] Re: Zipped Bulletins

From: ac191@detroit.freenet.org (James Haight)  
Date: Mon, 13 Nov 1995 11:34:06 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511131634.LAA12687@detroit.freenet.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>Someone requested that TAPR do this -- but our server doesn't have the  
>bandwidth capacity currently to do it. Maybe in another 6 months.  
>  
>Hopefully someone else will pickup what Remi was doing.  
>  
>Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD  
>

Thanks for the response Greg... I am not sure what happened to F6CNB,  
but, a lot of us relied on this service, as it was the only way we  
could get bulletins into our remote area... His contirbution \_will\_  
be and is missed by many...

--  
Jim - WW8Q  
ac191@detroit.freenet.org

---

## 8. Re: [BBSSIG:1961] Re: Zipped Bulletins

From: vodall@mtewe.proulx.com (loopy)  
Date: Mon, 13 Nov 95 12:22:31 MST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9VoieDlw165w@mtewe.proulx.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

James Haight <ac191@detroit.freenet.org> writes:

> Thanks for the response Greg... I am not sure what happened to F6CNB,  
> but, a lot of us relied on this service, as it was the only way we  
> could get bulletins into our remote area... His contirbution \_will\_  
> be and is missed by many...  
>  
> --  
> Jim - WW8Q  
> ac191@detroit.freenet.org

On the subject of getting bulletins into remote areas - does anybody  
have information on the project in Canada to broadcast bulletins  
via the C-band TV satellites?

Bill  
vodall@bigsky.dillon.mt.us

---

## 9. Re: [BBSSIG:1958] BBS/pc compatability

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <n3jix@epix.net>  
Date: Mon, 13 Nov 1995 22:39:15 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951113223659.5039B-100000@plum.epix.net>



Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 13 Nov 1995, Mike Berg wrote:

```
> Finally, last week, I moved the BBS hard drive to another computer,
> this time a 386sx-33 w/4 MB RAM and no built in ports. I'm still using the
> BOCA 2 port serial card with my two user ports sharing COM 1 with a BPQKISS
> diode matrix cable and my UHF backbone on COM 2, also using BPQKISS.
> Since the move, performance has been flawless. What I'm wondering is, has
> this happened to other sysops? Are some pc's just not compatible with BBS
> software?
```

I really don't know what to tell you. I have W0RLI 19.4 here, running G8BPQ 4.08a. All three TNCs are in BPQKISS mode, and the 4th port is a serial link to my other machine. I haven't had any problems with my 386dx-40 with 5 megs of ram. I use standard serial cards with the port speed set to 9600.

Are you running BPQ 4.08a? That's the only thing that I can figure... Other than an act of the computer god...

Let use know if you find an answer, I'm interested.

73, de Bill, N3JIX

```

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX *
* Internet: n3jix@epix.net *
* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/ *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

```

---

## 10. Re: [BBSSIG:1955] BBSSIG messages, any?????

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 14 Nov 1995 06:07:07 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511141307.GAA21607@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 08:50 PM 11/12/95 -0600, you wrote:

```
>I haven't seen any messages from the list in many days. Has everyone
>moved to other areas or gone to private mail? I really enjoyed the
>range of subjects and even though I don't run a BBS, I learned a
>lot about packet and the different uses. Maybe there is a new list
>on the block or something?? I never had anything to contribute being
>a user and not a Sysop, but even a user could learn quite a bit just
>by following the threads. Maybe my provider has a problem receiving from
>the list or something. Just wondering.
```

```
>
>de N5EJS
>Russ in LA
>
>
>de N5EJS #1525
>Russ in La.
```

Russ, there is little anyone can do about it. TAPR in it's wisdom has decided that hams cannot be trusted to write \*GOOD\* things so there is a moderator who is also a ham and if he thinks the message is bad he kills it.

There is no way to know how many are killed or why. So well may this message be killed. I have decided not to contribute to either this or the other NETSIG until the moderator thing is worked out.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 11. [BBSSIG:1964] Re: BBSSIG messages, any????? (fwd)

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 14 Nov 1995 12:29:53 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511141829.MAA07809@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl F. Larsen wrote:

```
>
> Russ, there is little anyone can do about it. TAPR in it's wisdom
> has decided that hams cannot be trusted to write *GOOD* things so there is a
> moderator who is also a ham and if he thinks the message is bad he kills it.
>
```

your goodness and truth seeking moderator,  
Barry

`mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us`

I'll agree the SIG has been much more focused. You can't get much more

focused than we currently are with our almost total lack of activity.

The TAPR SIG moderators are doing thier best to do thier job. It's not thier fault that the job's concept is fundamentally flawed. Every time moderation has been used to lower the "noise" level, we have seen an even greater drop on the "signal"..

The baby's being thrown out with the bath water.

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Have you noticed how when a guy drives over a cliff or something, he hits the brakes really hard? Hey, better try the EMERGENCY brake!

---

#### 14. Re: [BBSSIG:1967] Re: BBSSIG messages, any????? (fwd)

From: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr.)  
Date: Wed, 15 Nov 1995 09:07:00 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9511150905.AA17047@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Tue, 14 Nov 1995 20:30:52 -0600, you wrote:

>According to Gary..

>>Unpopular as it is to a small minority, I think the group is much more focused  
>>since it became moderated. I support it wholeheartedly. I only wish some of  
>>the other groups would follow the lead.

>Small minority? You're the only person I've seen on the SIG who has  
>expressed this sentiment, Gary. I'm sure there are others, but seriously  
>doubt that a MAJORITY of the subscribers share your feelings. You're  
>entitled to your opinion, but please don't assign your opinion to the rest  
>of us.

Then you haven't been reading this group long. There was very strong support for it when it was started. And, there is has been very little complaining about it since. I'm just going by comments made on the group, not my own feelings.

>I think the sudden drop in activity following EVERY INCIDENCE of moderation  
>should give us a good clue about how the MAJORITY of subscribers feel about it.  
>( Oh, no! The SILENT majority! )

How would anyone know of "EVERY INCIDENCE of moderation"?

>Hams aren't used to being censored on packet, and they don't like to see  
>"big brother" looking over thier shoulders here either.

They aren't? Packet is very censored.

>I'll agree the SIG has been much more focused. You can't get much more  
>focused than we currently are with our almost total lack of activity.

There are, and always have been, periods of low activity. Even I have posted the question "Is the group broke?". It isn't long before things pick back up again.

>The TAPR SIG moderators are doing thier best to do thier job. It's not thier  
>fault that the job's concept is fundamentally flawed. Every time moderation  
>has been used to lower the "noise" level, we have seen an even greater drop  
>on the "signal"..

All I see is a lull in activity. Maybe I'm missing something. Just where is this place that tells you every time someone posts and it doesn't get distributed because it was "moderated out"?

I'd rather see low activity, than all the bickering and name calling. Even this thread has progressed to what I would call noise and inappropriate.

>The baby's being thrown out with the bath water.

Obviously, I disagree. But enough of that, we just agree to disagree :)

>73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

Was surprised to see the sig, Chuck. I hadn't bothered to see who it was

Onward and upward...

`[REDACTED] mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us`

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Wed, 15 Nov 95 10:39:13 PST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9511151039.ZM23840@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

These comments are not intended to start any flame wars, or any such thing, but simply to report my observations, and note the actions I have personally taken since the group (and netsig) became moderated.

- So take the discussion to the packet network, where censorship IS routed around, and totally open discussion can take place.

... Hank

— —

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet        : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com        "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.ORG.U.S.A.NOAM

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 15 Nov 1995 13:09:46 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511151909.NAA16269@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Barry

## TAPR-BBSSIG 1994-1995

From: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Date: Thu, 16 Nov 1995 00:25:23 -0400  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511160425.AAA00432@bud.peinet.pe.ca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>All I see is a lull in activity. Maybe I'm missing something. Just where is  
>this place that tells you every time someone posts and it doesn't get  
>distributed because it was "moderated out"?  
>  
>I'd rather see low activity, than all the bickering and name calling. Even  
>this thread has progressed to what I would call noise and inappropriate.  
>  
>>73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
>

I agree on both points. I subscribe to a number of mailing lists and all have cycles of activity, in fact this group seems to be more consistant than others.

Any reduction in traffic as a result of moderation is more due to the lack of flame & counter-flame messages. (better signal/noise ratio?)

It should be possible to state ones opinion or preference without flaming, personal attacks or other anti-social activity.  
The difference between a \*discussion\* and an \*argument\* is the former does not have any yelling/screaming.

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

## 18. Optimum settings for PK-88

From: "Rob Cartier" <Rob.Cartier@snetel.com>  
Date: Sat, 18 Nov 1995 15:32:42 +0000  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511182034.PAA22388@starfleet.snetel.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

From: "Rob Cartier" <Rob.Cartier@snetel.com>  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Date: Fri, 17 Nov 1995 19:36:23 +0000  
Subject: Optimum settings for PK-88  
Reply-to: rob.cartier@snetel.com  
Priority: normal

Hi all,  
Does anybody have the optimum settings for the PK-88 for operation on msys in kiss mode. I was given the tnc and dont have a manual. I used the settings that the 1.18 doc suggested for the pk-232 and it appears to work except I am unsure of the last line  
host on or restart...I am using restart for now.. thanks in advance  
73 Rob AAR1FU / KD1JG rob.cartier@snetel.com

---

## 19. Optimum settings for PK-88

From: Sean\_McClanahan@f2001.n109.z1.fidonet.org (Sean McClanahan)  
Date: Sun, 19 Nov 1995 09:19:26 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org (bbssig)  
Message-ID: <MSGID\_1=3A109=2F2001.0\_af32ad2@fidonet.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

bt> From: "Rob Cartier" <Rob.Cartier@snetel.com>  
bt> To: bbssig@tapr.org  
bt> Date: Fri, 17 Nov 1995 19:36:23 +0000  
bt> Subject: Optimum settings for PK-88  
bt> Reply-to: rob.cartier@snetel.com  
bt> Priority: normal

bt> Hi all,  
bt> Does anybody have the optimum settings for the PK-88 for  
bt> operation on msys in kiss mode. I was given the tnc and dont  
bt> have a manual. I used the settings that the 1.18 doc  
bt> suggested for the pk-232 and it appears to work except I am  
bt> unsure of the last line  
bt> host on or restart...I am using restart for now.. thanks in  
bt> advance 73 Rob AAR1FU / KD1JG rob.cartier@snetel.com

Hi Rob... here's what I'm using. Don't know if it's optimum or not, but it can be used for comparison. Maybe some others can comment on this.

AWLEN 8  
PARITY 0  
RESTART  
TRACE OFF  
HID ON  
BEACON EVERY 0  
PACKET  
CONMODE TRANS  
PPERSIST ON  
RAW ON  
HPOLL OFF  
KISS ON

I've had problems once in a while with the PK-88 locking up when I take MSYS down for maintenance. This initialization seems to bring it out of it's brain-dead state pretty well when that happens. As usual, YMMV. :-)

Take care,  
Sean

---

## 20. Looking for a person who sent me info...

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <n3jix@epix.net>  
Date: Sun, 19 Nov 1995 16:05:25 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951119160343.16278A-100000@peach.epix.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

To who sent me the config files to check for them, please e-mail me. I accidentally lost your address, and I think I have some ideas for you to try...

I think the call ends in QBH... At least, thats what I saved the files as...

Sorry about that...

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \*  
\* Internet: n3jix@epix.net \*  
\* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/ \*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 21. Remi is back

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 1995 06:57:58 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511201357.GAA08440@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Last night I tried to reach 44.77.5.138 from my internet account and, since it had been down for several weeks, expected no connect but surprise! It connected and I got the file needed.

Trying to remember...it is ftpfwd I think that gets you logged in. That is when asked for login: type ftpfwd. For a password send your call sign.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 22. Re: [BBSSIG:1975] Remi is back

From: mharloff@spacetech.com  
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 1995 17:01:18 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511202301.RAA16423@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Karl,

What is the "Host ID" for 44.77.5.138 ??

Thanx is advance.

73, Mark KB2TXP

---

## 23. Re: [BBSSIG:1976] Re: Remi is back

From: "Clarke L. Diekmann" <diekmann@crl.com>  
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 1995 15:47:52 -0800 (PST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951120154634.20163A@crl8.crl.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Remi's address is 44.76.5.138, not 44.77.5.138.... Unless he has TWO of them...

Clarke

---

## 24. Re: [BBSSIG:1977] Re: Remi is back

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 1995 18:10:47 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511210110.SAA27666@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 06:09 PM 11/20/95 -0600, you wrote:

>  
>Remi's address is 44.76.5.138, not 44.77.5.138.... Unless he has TWO of  
>them...  
>  
>Clarke  
>  
>

Clarke, if I wrote 44.77.5.138 is was due to my pleasure that Remi has moved to El Paso! But alas he still must stay near his business. And I am sorry for my error.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 25. Re: [BBSSIG:1976] Re: Remi is back

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 20 Nov 1995 18:10:44 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511210110.SAA27662@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 05:13 PM 11/20/95 -0600, you wrote:

>Karl,  
>  
>What is the "Host ID" for 44.77.5.138 ??  
>  
>Thanx is advance.  
>  
>73, Mark KB2TXP  
>

Hi Mark, not sure what you mean by Host ID. If you ftp to 44.76.5.138 you are connected to Remi's JNOS. You need to send a name and password. The name is ftpwd and the password is your callsign.

It is kinda simple...

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 26. Re: [BBSSIG:1976] Re: Remi is back

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Tue, 21 Nov 1995 08:24:46 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951121082415.27699C-100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Mon, 20 Nov 1995 mharloff@spacetechn.com wrote:

> What is the "Host ID" for 44.77.5.138 ??

The hostname for the REAL address (44.76.5.138) is hamgate2.w5-f6cnb.ampr.org.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      http://www.lantz.com      brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
    while (memory\_available) {  
        eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
        if (feel\_like\_it)  
            make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);  
        gates\_bank\_balance++;  
    }

## 27. Need BPQ help in New Hampshire

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 21 Nov 1995 08:55:33 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511211455.IAA07959@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi gang,

This gentleman is looking for help setting up G8BPQ. He is in New Hampshire. Anybody on the list near him that might make a direct contact?

Thanks,  
Barry

> From: Don Perrin <don\_cis@alucin.plymouth.edu>  
> Subject: g8bpq  
> To: barry@ia.net (Barry Buelow WA0RJT)

>  
> barry,  
> i am trying to setup g8bpq. i am located in plymouth, new hampshire!  
>  
> don  
>

---

## 28. changes at TAPR system

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Tue, 21 Nov 1995 08:57:20 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511211457.IAA07971@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Folks,

Lee has been making some changes to the computer which hosts TAPR.ORG. It is now running BSD and he has made a few minor changes. If anyone has problems with the list server, please contact me directly and I'll look into it.

Thanks,  
Barry

---

## 29. Re: [BBSSIG:1981] Need BPQ help in New Hampshire

From: hank\_oredson@MENTORG.COM (Hank Oredson)  
Date: Tue, 21 Nov 95 10:01:48 PST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9511211001.ZM20960@hanko>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Nov 21, 9:06am, Barry Buelow WA0RJT wrote:

> Subject: [BBSSIG:1981] Need BPQ help in New Hampshire  
> Hi gang,  
>  
> This gentleman is looking for help setting up G8BPQ. He  
> is in New Hampshire. Anybody on the list near him that might make  
> a direct contact?  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Barry  
>  
>  
> > From: Don Perrin <don\_cis@alucin.plymouth.edu>  
> > Subject: g8bpq  
> > To: barry@ia.net (Barry Buelow WA0RJT)  
> >  
> >  
> > barry,  
> > i am trying to setup g8bpq. i am located in plymouth, new hampshire!  
> >  
> > don  
> >  
> >  
> >  
> > End of excerpt from Barry Buelow WA0RJT



If he contacts wbldsw via packet he will get all the help he needs.

... Hank

--

Hank Oredson @ Mentor Graphics                      Library Operations  
Internet : hank\_oredson@mentorg.com                "Parts 'R Us!"  
Amateur Radio: W0RLI@W0RLI.0R.USA.NOAM

---

### 30. Re: [BBSSIG:1981] Need BPQ help in New Hampshire

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 21 Nov 1995 14:50:34 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511212150.OAA25112@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 09:07 AM 11/21/95 -0600, you wrote:

>Hi gang,

>

>This gentleman is looking for help setting up G8BPQ. He  
>is in New Hampshire. Anybody on the list near him that might make  
>a direct contact?

>

>Thanks,

>Barry

Barry I am far away but since he is on the internet I might be able  
to help him. I can at least send him my paper and see if it helps....:-) I  
will e-mail him and see what happens.

>

>> From: Don Perrin <don\_cis@alucin.plymouth.edu>

>> Subject: g8bpq

>> To: barry@ia.net (Barry Buelow WA0RJT)

>

>

>>

>> barry,

>> i am trying to setup g8bpq. i am located in plymouth, new hampshire!

>>

>> don

>>

>

>

karl

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

### 31. Re: [BBSSIG:1984] Re: Need BPQ help in New Hampshire

From: Sid Ashen-Brenner <sashen@midusa.net>  
Date: Tue, 21 Nov 1995 18:15:26 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511220015.SAA21160@services.midusa.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 04:08 PM 11/21/95 -0600, you wrote:

>At 09:07 AM 11/21/95 -0600, you wrote:

Some deleted...

> Barry I am far away but since he is on the internet I might be able  
>to help him. I can at least send him my paper and see if it helps....:-) I  
>will e-mail him and see what happens.

> karl

>Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

>

OK .... Where IS this paper ... that I keep hearing about, but have not yet  
been able to locate??? I've been hearing about it since the TAPR  
convention in St. Louis when it was still "under development"

I'd like to find out how much I don't know about BPQ (and I'm sure there is  
a LOT that I don't know about it!)

Sid Ashen-Brenner n0obm Salina, Ks. sashen@midusa.net

\* \* \* \* \*

Sid Ashen-Brenner (n0obm)

Salina Regional Health Center  
Santa Fe Campus Maintenance Electronic's  
Salina, Kansas 67401 913-452-6672  
sashen@midusa.net

---

### 32. Re: [BBSSIG:1985] Re: Need BPQ help in New Hampshire

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 22 Nov 1995 06:55:19 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511221355.GAA28905@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 06:23 PM 11/21/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>At 04:08 PM 11/21/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>>At 09:07 AM 11/21/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>  
>Some deleted...  
>  
>> Barry I am far away but since he is on the internet I might be able  
>>to help him. I can at least send him my paper and see if it helps....-) I  
>>will e-mail him and see what happens.  
>> Karl  
>>Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->  
>>  
>OK .... Where IS this paper ... that I keep hearing about, but have not yet  
>been able to locate??? I've been hearing about it since the TAPR  
>convention in St. Louis when it was still "under development"

Why Sid just look in MY c:\edit and there it is. I have more to add  
since the switch keeps getting more capable, and yesterday I set up a 9600  
baud link between 2 computers. So need to document that with real input....:-)  
>  
>I'd like to find out how much I don't know about BPQ (and I'm sure there is  
>a LOT that I don't know about it!)

The documentation from Mr. John Wiseman needs to be read wearing  
Green Eye shades at 2 am. It helps to have had plenty to drink...:-)

>Sid Ashen-Brenner n0obm Salina, Ks. sashen@midusa.net  
>\*\*\*\*\*  
>Sid Ashen-Brenner (n0obm)  
>Salina Regional Health Center  
>Santa Fe Campus Maintenance Electronic's  
>Salina, Kansas 67401 913-452-6672  
>sashen@midusa.net  
>  
Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

### 33. Re: [BBSSIG:1981] Need BPQ help in New Hampshire

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 22 Nov 1995 12:23:56 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511221923.MAA19739@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 09:07 AM 11/21/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>Hi gang,  
>  
>This gentleman is looking for help setting up G8BPQ. He  
>is in New Hampshire. Anybody on the list near him that might make  
>a direct contact?  
>  
>Thanks,  
>Barry  
>  
>  
>> From: Don Perrin <don\_cis@alcuin.plymouth.edu>  
          ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^  
Barry I tried to send Don e-mail and it came back as no-such-person.  
Could you please check and make sure the above is right?

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

### 34. Re: [BBSSIG:1986] Re: Need BPQ help in New Hampshire

From: Sid Ashen-Brenner <sashen@midusa.net>  
Date: Wed, 22 Nov 1995 17:10:41 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511222310.RAA24673@services.midusa.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 08:06 AM 11/22/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>>Some deleted...  
>>  
>>OK .... Where IS this paper ... that I keep hearing about, but have not yet  
>>been able to locate??? I've been hearing about it since the TAPR  
>>convention in St. Louis when it was still "under development"  
>  
> Why Sid just look in MY c:\edit and there it is. I have more to add  
>since the switch keeps getting more capable, and yesterday I set up a 9600  
>baud link between 2 computers. So need to document that with real input....:-)

Hmmm.... Tempting ... and if I was in the neighborhood, I might take a peek.  
I was under the impression that you HAD released at least a draft of the paper.  
It's beginning to sound like the Fire Alarm System here at work ... a "Work  
in Progress" .... for the next decade of so!

I was just normally curious to read further documentation on BPQ if  
such was available. If it's not released yet, I'll wait.

> The documentation from Mr. John Wiseman needs to be read wearing  
>Green Eye shades at 2 am. It helps to have had plenty to drink...:-)

I'll second that ... in spots at least!

At any rate .. Happy Thanksgiving to all. We're off to the in-laws for a  
couple of days.

-----  
Sid Ashen-Brenner (n0obm) Packet: n0obm @ n0obm.#ncks.ks.usa.noam  
Salina Regional Health Center Fidonet: 1:295/6 Salina Packet Systems BBS  
  
Salina, Kansas 67401  
sashen@midusa.net

---

### 35. DRSI Card Problem

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 25 Nov 1995 05:58:01 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511251258.FAA24932@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Strange problem. I have been using this DRSI type 2 card with 2 1200  
baud modems for 3 or 4 years now with no problem. Last week I moved it over  
to a "new cheap 386" computer and it stopped working. I tried a lot of  
things and found it would work "OK" using pac4 from BPQ to test it, but when  
I loaded windows 3.1 it would not work.

I put the board back into the 486 and it worked perfect using pac4  
in a dos window of win95. so the board seems to be good. Put it back into  
the 386 and it now doesn't work period.

I checked the voltages in the 386 computer and 12 volts is 12.45  
about. 5 volts is 5.03 or such with my 1% digital voltmeter. So the power  
supply seems to be ok. So it would seem there is another problem. There is  
no problem with irq 7 or the software stream.

Has anyone got an idea?

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

### 36. Re: [BBSSIG:1989] DRSI Card Problem

From: pipe2@oeonline.com  
Date: Sat, 25 Nov 95 13:37 EST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0tJPTy-000AU7C@oeonline.oeonline.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I don't know all that much about the BPQ switch, but I have had similar  
problems with "it works on my 486 but not my 386". Linux was where my  
problem was. If you are familiar with Linux then you know that it provides  
\*alot\* of info about the machine it is running on when it boots. I mean  
REALLY in-depth info (better than any PC utility I have seen). It always  
comes up saying (and this happens on both 386's I run Linux on) "32 bit BIOS  
extensions not present". Maybe These BIOS extensions are affecting the BPQ

switch in some way? I can get Linux to work on these 386's but some things that should work (like X win) don't. Maybe there is some little driver or subroutine in the BPQ switch that wants to see these BIOS extensions. Or then I might be wrong about the whole thing :-)

-Bill kb8wyp

At 07:01 AM 11/25/95 -0600, you wrote:

> Strange problem. I have been using this DRSI type 2 card with 2 1200  
> baud modems for 3 or 4 years now with no problem. Last week I moved it over  
> to a "new cheap 386" computer and it stopped working. I tried a lot of  
> things and found it would work "OK" using pac4 from BPQ to test it, but when  
> I losded windows 3.1 it would not work.

>  
> I put the board back into the 486 and it worked perfect using pac4  
> in a dos window of win95. so the board seems to be good. Put it back into  
> the 386 and it now doesn't work period.

>  
> I checked the voltages in the 386 computer and 12 volts is 12.45  
> about. 5 volts is 5.03 or such with my 1% digital voltmeter. So the power  
> supply seems to be ok. So it would seem there is another problem. There is  
> no problem with irq 7 or the software stream.

>  
> Has anyone got an idea?

> Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

>  
>

---

### 37. PK-88 KISS ROMS??

From: Richard Hallman <ki3v@connectus.com>  
Date: Sat, 25 Nov 1995 07:39:17 pst  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <30B738AA-00000001@rnodx.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Is there such a thing as a PK-88 KISS ROM?? If so where can I find the file.

Also does anybody have info on the KISS mode in the standard EPROM that comes with the PK-88?? Wonder if TXdelay can be set remotely or does it need to be set before putting the PK-88 in KISS Mode???

Seems that my TXDELAY is not setting with the G8BPQ Port setup file. Using the standard EPROM with my PK-88's....G8BPQ with FBB 5.15c.

Thanks!

Rich KI3V Reno

\*\*\*\*\*  
Richard Hallman ki3v@connectus.com  
11870 Heartpine St  
Reno Nv 89506 ki3v@w7ta.#nonev.nv  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

### 38. Re: [BBSSIG:1991] PK-88 KISS ROMS??

From: Greg Jones <wd5ivd@tapr.org>  
Date: Sat, 25 Nov 1995 20:59:19 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511260259.UAA23317@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I don't think there is. There is one for the PK-87.

Cheers - Greg

>  
>  
>

> Is there such a thing as a PK-88 KISS ROM?? If so where can I find  
> the file.

>  
> Also does anybody have info on the KISS mode in the standard EPROM  
> that comes with the PK-88?? Wonder if TXdelay can be set remotely or  
> does it need to be set before putting the PK-88 in KISS Mode???

>  
> Seems that my TXDELAY is not setting with the G8BPQ Port setup file.  
> Using the standard EPROM with my PK-88's....G8BPQ with FBB 5.15c.

>  
> Thanks!  
>  
> Rich KI3V Reno  
>  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> Richard Hallman ki3v@connectus.com  
> 11870 Heartpine St  
> Reno Nv 89506 ki3v@w7ta.#nonev.nv  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
>  
>

---

### 39. RE: [BBSSIG:1991] PK-88 KISS ROMS??

From: mikeberg@willmar.com  
Date: Sun, 26 Nov 95 10:26:30 PST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.951126102934.mikeberg@willmar.com.willmar.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

In reply to the TXD problem while in KISS mode.  
I've read somewhere that the tnc is only updated from the computer every 5 minutes or so. My experience here seems to bear that out. Try waiting a few minutes after boot up and try it then.

-----  
Name: Mike Berg  
E-mail: mikeberg@willmar.com (Mike Berg)  
Ham Radio: N0QBH@N0QBH.#wcmn.mn.usa.noam  
Date: 11/26/95  
Time: 10:26:30

This message was sent by Chameleon  
-----

---

### 40. DRSI Card Problem

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 27 Nov 1995 07:04:51 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511271404.HAA11979@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I wish to thank everyone who sent ideas and now want to explain what the problem really is, but I can't. I can say that with hours of testing it is either ground currents between the radio and the computer, or hum on the power supply in the computer. But no fix yet.

But I can move the card to this computer and using the same EXACT BPQ setup the DRSI card works great! So the mystery thickens but it is nothing you guys can do a thing with far away. It is a strange occurrence that will take time and testing to correct.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

### 41. RE: [BBSSIG:1994] DRSI Card Problem

From: "EDWARD J. SADOWSKI, JR." <EDSADOW@ids.net>  
Date: Mon, 27 Nov 1995 15:06:29 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <951127150630.1149f@ids.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hang in there, Karl... Murphy lurks in the environs - hi!

73, Ed

---

### 42. FBB & Reject !?!

From: INFOPLAN.IPLAN10.LOUISK@cape\_smtp\_gw.iplan.co.za  
Date: Tue, 28 Nov 1995 08:23:52 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <s0bac724.092@cape\_smtp\_gw.iplan.co.za>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I am using FBB 5.15c at ZS0DLT.TVL.ZAF.AF.

Recently the need arose to reject some bulletins. I added it to the reject.sys file, but it just keeps on flooding the bbs. Is there anyone that had the same problem and found a solution? Can somebody maybe ask the author, F6FBB?

73's Louis, de ZR6ABC.  
Louis.Kruger@iplan.co.za

---

### 43. SATGATE ?!?

From: INFOPLAN.IPLAN10.LOUISK@cape\_smtp\_gw.iplan.co.za  
Date: Tue, 28 Nov 1995 08:24:27 +0200  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <s0bac763.093@cape\_smtp\_gw.iplan.co.za>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

We intend to start a satellite gateway in the northern part of ZAF country.

Two problems questions:

1. Where do one get the appropriate software ?
2. Who does one contact to gain access to the satellite network ?

Louis, de ZR6ABC.  
Louis.Kruger@iplan.co.za

---

### 44. Re: [BBSSIG:1994] DRSI Card Problem

From: "Mike" <PALMER@cemr.wvu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 28 Nov 1995 14:44:31 EDT  
To: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>, bbssig@tapr.org, bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <1A695D54AA@cemr.wvu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

The problem you talk about can be caused by a fast buss speed. The chip set used in the DRSI cards is S\_L\_O\_W and can not run at fast buss speeds. I talked to them about this and they (DRSI) were aware of the problem.

There is a faster chip for one of the two Zilog chips on the card but not the other (I can not remember at this time which one is only made in the slow speed). Any way the problem I found is that as soon as I tried to do an init. on the board the machine hung. Other machines I put the board in ran fine.

The solution: (1) Don't use the card in some machines

- (2) Reset the AT buss speed to a lower value if the BIOS allows. For some machines this is not possible (I have one -- a 40Mhz 386).

Hope this helps.

73, Mike K8LG@K8LG.WV.USA  
palmer@cemr.wvu.edu

---

### 45. RE: [BBSSIG:1996] FBB & Reject ?!?

From: "James R. Brooks" <jbrooks@midusa.net>  
Date: Wed, 29 Nov 1995 01:19:31 -0000  
To: "'bbssig@tapr.org'" <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <01BABDFB.2F7752A0@jbrooks1.ix.netcom.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> I am using FBB 5.15c at ZS0DLD.TVL.ZAF.AF.  
>  
> Recently the need arose to reject some buletins. I added it to the  
> reject.sys file, but it just keeps on flooding the bbs. Is there anyone that  
> had the same problem and found a solution ? Can somebody maybe ask  
> the author, F6FBB ?  
>  
> 73's Louis, de ZR6ABC.  
> Louis.Kruger@iplan.co.za  
>  
>

Look for a file named "reject.sys" in the FBB\SYSTEM file directory, and add the appropriate info there.  
Here's the top couple of lines from mine:

```

REJET.SYS file

in the order, and starting from the first column:
```

```
H)old/R)ect (B,P,T) ORIGIN(from) ROUTE(@) DESTINATION(To) BID SIZE(kbytes)
#
L B * * * * 0
#
R B * * WSTNET * 0
```

The first line puts all locally entered bulletins on hold for review, and the second rejects all bulletins TO WSTNET, from anyone, using any @BBS designation.  
Works Great

Jim, K0JJV @ K0JJV.#NWKS.KS.USA.NOAM

---

## 46. Buckmaster servers for REBBS

From: Freeman Crosby <crosby@flnet.com>  
Date: Wed, 29 Nov 1995 12:31:21 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511291731.MAA11952@orbit.flnet.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

To interested REBBS sysops:

Two new BBseries servers for the Oct 1995 Buckmaster HamCall CD-rom are available.

BBrthc.exe is the Real-time version presently (BBrthc3a.zip)  
BBreqhc.exe is the Remote server presently as (BBrqhc3a.zip)

The new Buckmaster TSR (which is only 26K) accesses the international calls and provides data from all the fields used in the U.S. FCC database.

These include in addition to the regular Name/Address/Zipcode - Lat., Lon., Grid square, Area code, Hours after GMT and a more accurate County listing, I am now shown in the proper one, Hi.  
The servers adds Wpage data if you are running the Wpage system.

Pictures are also available of quite a few listings but I've been reluctant to provide that feature due to the size of the files involved.

I am able to run both SAM and Hamcall TSRs together with no problems.

Other recent work here includes updating the BBseries programs to work with the Win-95 long filename directories. So far as I can see only BBindex which is now BBidxw95.exe released as (BBidx70.zip) and Bfkill.exe released as Bfkil3d.zip have needed changes.

All the above are available at the kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov [128.149.63.2] ftp site along with all the other BBseries servers in the pub/hamradio/AA4RE/WINPR directory.

I assume everyone reading this will have ftp access, if not they may be downloaded from my Wildcat LL system at (941)475-9526,,66

Note:

For anyone interested in creating and maintaining their own FCC database using the files provided by the FCC on the Internet please contact me directly as I have the programs but don't think the demand is great enough to write docs and package them up for distribution, which is more work for me than creating them.

I'll work directly with you in setting it up.

My FCC system requires about 120 mb HD space and has both Real-time and Remote servers which provide searches by Call, Name-Races-Mil-Club, City, and Zip.

This system may be updated as often as daily, I do it about once a week and the whole thing is FREE and always current.

Contact me at:  
crosby@flnet.com  
<http://www.flnet.com/~crosby/wlnpr.html>  
(941)474-2690

73/Free  
WINPR

---

## 47. Re: [BBSSIG:2000] Buckmaster servers for REBBS

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 29 Nov 1995 12:55:01 -0600 (CST)

To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511291855.MAA28315@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Freeman,  
Thanks for posting that info on the servers. Those are nice programs. I'm glad to see that you're working on Win95 versions. There is a lot of interest in that but lack of G8BPQ for Win95 is the main holdup.

73 Barry

---

## 48. Satellite info

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 29 Nov 1995 12:57:42 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511291857.MAA28329@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

29 Nov 95

To the station in Africa looking for satellite info:

Please send an email direct to Roy Welsh at rdw@crl.com

He can tell you about the programs and setup. Roy operates the satellite gateway in the St Louis, Missouri area.

73 Barry wa0rjt

---

## 49. Re: [BBSSIG:2001] Re: Buckmaster servers for REBBS

From: Freeman Crosby <crosby@flnet.com>  
Date: Wed, 29 Nov 1995 21:33:44 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511300233.VAA22175@orbit.flnet.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 02:52 PM 11/29/95 -0600, you wrote:

>  
>Freeman,  
>Thanks for posting that info on the servers. Those are nice  
>programs. I'm glad to see that you're working on Win95 versions.  
>There is a lot of interest in that but lack of G8BPQ for Win95  
>is the main holdup.  
>  
>73 Barry

Barry, thanks for the comment:

I was kinda forced into the new versions as after I had loaded Win-95 into the BBS system I ran into the BPQ problem. I wasted a couple of months trying all sorts of configurations to run the BBS in Win-95 windows.

As a temporary work-around I found that running in Win-95's MSdos 7.0 with QEMM/Vidram and Desqview I could multitask AA4RE, Jnos, Wildcat and a window full of servers. I get FBB compressed forwarding with the Jnos and it seems much more stable in this configuration than previously running in Dos 6.0.

I can still boot up in Win-95 to do maintenance on the system and update my FCC database.  
A test daily FCC update in Dos 6.0 took about 5.5 minutes, with Win-95 it took 1 minute 29 seconds, really exciting.

Result is I still had to convert the programs using the DOS 7.0 long file format and I'll wait, hope and be ready for a Win-95 version of BPQ.

73/Free  
WINPR

---

## 50. Need TM441 info

From: mharloff@spacetech.com  
Date: Thu, 30 Nov 1995 14:40:08 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199511302040.0AA15021@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello,

Looking for "connect points" on a Kenwood TM441A for 96kb TX/RX.



## 51. Re: [BBSSIG:2000] Buckmaster servers for REBBS

From: ferracci@imaginet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Thu, 30 Nov 1995 21:25:45 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <30bdc67a.3426880@mail.imagnet.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Two new BBseries servers for the Oct 1995 Buckmaster HamCall CD-rom are  
>available.

Hi,

Are some servers available for use with the PacketCluster program ?

What do they do ?

Thanks.

```
-- +-----+-----+
-- | From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ | > ferracci@imaginet.fr < |
-- | Montpellier, FRANCE | F1JKJ @F1RVP.FMLR.FRA.EU |
-- +-----+-----+
--
-- [PGP key on public-key servers]
```

---

## 52. Packet <-> Internet BBS Software

From: Michael Harper <mharper@mbs.net>  
Date: Thu, 30 Nov 95 09:01:33 -0800  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512010134.UAA19007@ernie.mbs.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Does anyone know of a BBS Software Program that will allow hams to connect via packet radio and send a personal message or bulletin. Then the BBS would periodically upload these to the Internet via a local Internet Provider (modem dialup). Must be PC based, not Unix. Also must be able to download bulletins/personals from the Internet. Any help or guidance would be appreciated.

Thanks,  
Mike KQ4PP

---

## 53. New Callbook CD

From: Wayne Harrell <wharrell@cris.com>  
Date: Thu, 30 Nov 1995 21:52:49 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512010252.VAA21629@franklin-fddi.cris.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Are there any servers for FBB that accesses the New Callbook CD and possibly the new Repeater Database available from ARRL? Maybe the gurus of server software will fix some for FBB. The new callbook has international calls as well!

73 and HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL THE BBS AND NODE SYSOPS ...

DE Wayne Harrell  
WD4LYV

WHARRELL@CRIS.COM

---

## 54. Re: [BBSSIG:2007] New Callbook CD

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Thu, 30 Nov 1995 22:05:15 -3000 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512010405.WAA10651@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Wayne Harrell wrote:

>

> Are there any servers for FBB that accesses the New Callbook CD and possibly the  
> new Repeater Database available from ARRL? Maybe the gurus of server  
> software will  
> fix some for FBB. The new callbook has international calls as well!

Is this the Buckmaster product or something different?

Barry

---

# December 1995

Original source file: bbssig.9512

Source: [http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr\\_history/SIG\\_Archives/bbssig/mail\\_archive/bbssig.9512](http://ftp.tapr.org/tapr_history/SIG_Archives/bbssig/mail_archive/bbssig.9512)

## 1. Re: [BBSSIG:2006] Packet <-> Internet BBS Software

From: Charles Brabham <n5pvl@texoma.com>  
Date: Fri, 1 Dec 1995 02:34:56 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512010834.CAA07037@mercury.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 07:52 PM 11/30/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>Does anyone know of a BBS Software Program that will allow hams to  
>connect via packet radio and send a personal message or bulletin. Then  
>the BBS would periodically upload these to the Internet via a local  
>Internet Provider (modem dialup). Must be PC based, not Unix. Also  
>must be able to download bulletins/personals from the Internet. Any  
>help or guidance would be appreciated.  
>  
>Thanks,  
>Mike KQ4PP  
>

The best thing I know of for that would be JNOS, Mike. I'm not sure but there may be a DOS version of TNOS as well. These are combination packet BBS and TCP/IP programs. Hope this helps!

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM  
Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

If you're a young Mafia gangster out on your first date, I bet it's really embarrassing if somebody tries to kill you.

---

## 2. Re: [BBSSIG:2009] Re: Packet <-> Internet BBS Software

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Fri, 1 Dec 1995 08:35:48 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951201083348.30421E-100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 1 Dec 1995, Charles Brabham wrote:

> The best thing I know of for that would be JNOS, Mike. I'm not sure but  
> there may be a DOS version of TNOS as well.

Yes, TNOS/DOS is still alive and well. It did not 'die' when TNOS/Unix was created. It suffers the same DOS memory limitations of it's other xNOS cousins, though....

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      brian@lantz.com

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 3. Re: [BBSSIG:2006] Packet <-> Internet BBS Software

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Fri, 1 Dec 1995 06:42:29 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512011342.GAA11115@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 07:52 PM 11/30/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>Does anyone know of a BBS Software Program that will allow hams to  
>connect via packet radio and send a personal message or bulletin. Then  
>the BBS would periodically upload these to the Internet via a local  
>Internet Provider (modem dialup). Must be PC based, not Unix. Also  
>must be able to download bulletins/personals from the Internet. Any  
>help or guidance would be appreciated.

>  
>Thanks,  
>Mike KQ4PP  
>  
Hi Mike. I do what you want to do when the local internet ham wormhole to the internet is down. I run the F6FBB bbs software version 5.15C and with this software you can forward to a file the name of which you select. This file can be manipulated by a batch file to be zipped and put in a directory of your choice.

Then once a day you ftp this file to the guy your forwarding to, and get the file from him. Again with a batch file you unzip his file and rename it to mail.in and move it to your c:\fbb directory. Like magic FBB sees the file and loads it onto your bbs.

Possible variations on this are to have Trumpit connect to your server and use Eudora-Lite to attach the zipped file to a smtp to your forward partner. This is easier and works great even with 800,000 byte files! I do this every day with kc5izt in Albuquerque, NM.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

#### 4. BPQ - rejected callsigns

From: ferracci@imaginet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Mon, 04 Dec 1995 22:23:57 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <30c37362.1561298@mail.imagnet.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

We are looking for a way to reject some callsigns from a BQP-node.

We've seen in the docs that a VALIDCALLS command existed: It will not allow anybody but the listed calls to connect to the switch.

What we're looking for is just the opposite ;-)

We also need to have the SSID checked (if f1xxx-2 is rejected, f1xxx-3 should be able to connect).

Any idea ?

Thanks

```
-- +-----+-----+-----+-----+
-- | From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ | > ferracci@imaginet.fr < |
-- | Montpellier, FRANCE | http://www.imagnet.fr/~ferracci |
-- +-----+-----+-----+-----+
--
-- [PGP key on public-key servers]
```

---

#### 5. Re: [BBSSIG:2012] BPQ - rejected callsigns

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 5 Dec 1995 07:29:28 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512051429.HAA25513@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 04:35 PM 12/4/95 -0600, you wrote:

>Hi,

>

>We are looking for a way to reject some callsigns from a BQP-node.

>

>We've seen in the docs that a VALIDCALLS command existed: It will not allow anybody but the listed calls to connect to the switch.

>

>What we're looking for is just the opposite ;-)

>

>We also need to have the SSID checked (if f1xxx-2 is rejected, f1xxx-3 should be able to connect).

>

>Any idea ?

Laurent, at the bottom of your file "bpqcfg.txt" the next to last entry is ROUTES:

Under this heading you can put callsigns you want to manipulate. You can do many things that include deny connection. I have not verified whether

it excludes all the ssid or just the stated one. You must experiment Laurent and report back what you find...

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 6. How to Limit Nodes within BPQ

From: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Wed, 6 Dec 1995 14:04:09 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951206134437.2490B-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Laurent asked how to Reject a Node within BPQ, as far as I know this is the only way that you can , if there are other ways I would like to know..

I don't think BPQ has a reject Node feature ( I could be wrong )

At the bottom of the BPQCFG.TXT file after Routes I have the following

this is set as follows  
Callsign+sid,Quality,Port

abc1-1,0,1                these settings will limit the node spread ...  
abc1-1,0,2                watch for other sids eg abc1-2 etc add thes if needed  
abc1-1,0,3

abc1-2,192,4             This will make -2 the best route etc  
asx5-2,192,5  
d0g1-2,192,4

What you effectively do here is in set 1 you have set the quality to 0 which means no routes or no good..

In set 2 you have set these to 192 which makes these the best routes etc..

You can set the quality to any number 0 - 255 but I suggest that you only use 255 for your own node and 192 and less for others..

It is advisable to notify the NODOP that you are going to set a node to a very low level, this may just save you a bit of FLAME Mail..:-)

I hope this has helped and others may say that there is a better way of doing it but as I have had this configuration running here for about 4 years it seems to be 100%...

73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

## 7. News on F6FBB New Version ????

From: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Wed, 6 Dec 1995 14:13:04 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951206140428.2534A-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

Since the release of 5.15c which I obtained from Jean-Paul back at the begining of 1994, I have been unsuccessfull in finding out if he is going to release another DOS Version of FBB.

I have already sent a disk and payment the day my disk from him arrived, and repeated Packet messages have gone unanswered. I have even sent Packet messages via Telephone modem to a BBS in GB which forwards to F6FBB, still no reply or ACK,s back.. I can't even confirm that he has RXed the Snail Mail etc..

Can anyone give me an answer ????

Is there going to be another DOS version of FBB ??

Thanks ..

73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

## 8. Re: [BBSSIG:2015] News on F6FBB New Version ????

From: Dean R Madsen <dmadsen@iastate.edu>  
Date: Tue, 05 Dec 1995 21:17:50 CST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9512060317.AA26275@pv6f26.vincent.iastate.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>Hi,  
> Since the release of 5.15c which I obtained from Jean-Paul back at  
>the begining of 1994, I have been unsuccesfull in finding out if he is  
>going to release another DOS Version of FBB.  
>

There WILL be another DOS version. Work is going on for both dos and windows versions (the windows version intended to run under win 3.1 and 95, probably even OS/2 warp).

>Is there going to be another DOS version of FBB ??

Yes, but do not plan on running it on an XT. The new version will require a 286 or better with 2MB of memory and can utilize up to 16MB of memory.

The code has been totally rewritten, so have patience, a new version will be released eventually.

73,  
Dean - KE0WO

```
+++++
+ Dean R Madsen, KE0WO Computer Science Major +
+ Internet: dmadsen@iastate.edu Iowa State Univeristy +
+ ke0wo@iastate.edu Ames, Iowa +
+ AX25: KE0WO @ KE0WO.#WIA.IA.USA.NA FBB Beta tester Cellist +
+ Secretary for the Tristate Amateur Packet Association +
+ Treasurer for the Cyclone Amateur Radio Club +
+++++
```

---

## 9. External 1.2kb modem for DRSI PCPA-1 ??

From: Charles Brabham <n5pvl@texoma.com>  
Date: Wed, 6 Dec 1995 07:48:53 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: netsig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512061348.HAA13934@mercury.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I'm looking for a 1200 bd modem for my DRSI PCPA-1's "disconnect header serial port". Normally, DRSI's 300 bd HF modem is plugged in there, but I'm no longer involved in HF packet.

The disconnect header port sends synchronous data in AX.25 format to an external modem, and can be configured for RS-232 or TTL levels. Here are some of the external modems DRSI sez have been interfaced to the port:

|                            |                       |                      |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| G3RUH 9600 modem           | TexNet 9600 modem     | HAL ST-7000 HF modem |
| GLB NetLink 19,.2 kb modem | Kantronics 2400 modem | DRSI 2400 modem      |

As you can see, none of these will do you much good for 1200 bd. I have a TAPR 9600 modem which will also interface with the PCPA-1, but unfortunately there is no local 9600 activity yet, and a lowly 1200 bd modem would be much more useful to me at this time.

I suspect that since the TexNet 9600 modem works OK, that the TexNet 1200 modem kit might be a good way to go.. Has anyone on the list tried this previously, or have any good info related to the TexNet 1200 modem?

I have also heard that DRSI's 300 bd HF modem can be converted for 1200 bd operation.. If anyone has info on that conversion, that would be great ! All I've been able to dig up is rumours, and no specific info as yet.

I'd like to hear from anyone who has found a good way to run 1200 bd on the PCPA-1's external modem port, by whatever means..

Thanks!

73 DE N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

Internet: n5pvl@texoma.com

Blow, ye winds  
Like the trumpet blows  
But without all that noise.

---

## 10. Re: [BBSSIG:2014] How to Limit Nodes within BPQ

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 6 Dec 1995 06:55:38 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512061355.GAA15433@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 07:19 PM 12/5/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>  
>Laurent asked how to Reject a Node within BPQ, as far as I know this is  
>the only way that you can , if there are other ways I to would like to know..  
>  
>I don't think BPQ has a reject Node feature ( I could be wrong )  
>  
>At the bottom of the BPQCFG.TXT file after Routes I have the following  
>  
>this is set as follows  
> Callsign+sid,Quality,Port  
>  
>abc1-1,0,1               these settings will limit the node spread ...  
>abc1-1,0,2               watch for other sids eg abc1-2 etc add thes if needed  
>abc1-1,0,3  
>  
>abc1-2,192,4             This will make -2 the best route etc  
>asx5-2,192,5  
>d0g1-2,192,4  
>  
>What you effectivly do here is in set 1 you have set the quality to 0  
>which means no routes or no good..  
>  
>In set 2 you have set these to 192 which makes these the best routes etc..  
>  
>You can set the quality to any number 0 - 255 but I suggest that you only  
>use 255 for your own node and 192 and less for others..  
>  
>It is advisable to notify the NODOP that you are going to set a node to a  
>very low level, this may just save you a bit of FLAME Mail..:-)  
>  
>I hope this has helped and others may say that there is a better way of  
>doing it but as I have had this configuration running here for about 4 years  
>it seems to be 100%...  
>  
>73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
>z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

Phillip are you certain that you can do one thing for k5di-3 and  
another for k5di-0? If so it is good to know!

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 11. Re: [BBSSIG:2015] News on F6FBB New Version ????

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 6 Dec 1995 06:55:42 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512061355.GAA15436@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 07:23 PM 12/5/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>  
>Hi,  
> Since the release of 5.15c which I obtained from Jean-Paul back at  
>the begining of 1994, I have been unsuccesfull in finding out if he is  
>going to release another DOS Version of FBB.  
  
>Can anyone give me an answer ????  
>  
>Is there going to be another DOS version of FBB ??

No. But a Windows version is in Beta test all over the world.

>

>Thanks ..  
>  
>73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
>z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz  
>  
>  
Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 12. Re: [BBSSIG:2018] Re: How to Limit Nodes within BPQ

From: Phillip Conza <z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Thu, 7 Dec 1995 19:17:06 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951207184220.5066A-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Everyone,

It would appear that this has sparked some interest, which is really good I am no EXPERT with BPQ and at the begining I was loosing interest in it really FAST, but I stuck with it tried Version 408 with FBB 5.15c but was having heaps of trouble with it in relation to the windows routines that were added, hence most ZL BBS's have gone back to 407a..

Karl has asked as you see what would happen if you added the following K5DI-0 and K5DI-1

Well from my experience -0 should NEVER be USED as a SSID, I know you are going to ask why, well if you run an FBB BBS what is your Console CALL ? Arrrrrrrr Callsign-0 if you only have a straight call in the INIT.SRV Yes you can use a SSID as I do for the other BBS -2..

I don't really know what would happen if you did use -0 it may be worth a try.

I consider a -1 as a NODE and most Nodes in ZL are -1s there are -2 -3 etc I have never seen a -0..

If you would like to see my BPQCFG.TXT I am quite willing to let you all see it..

> Phillip are you certain that you can do one thing for k5di-3 and  
> another for k5di-0? If so it is good to know!  
>  
>  
> Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->  
>

73 Phillip  
z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

## 13. Hard Drive Blues

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 7 Dec 1995 08:26:28 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512071526.IAA04090@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Yesterday I decided to find out what happend. I have a 540 megabyte hard drive that I cut in two making two 250 megabyte drives C: and D:. Then I used Double Space from DOS 6.21 to make the two drives look like 500 megabite drives. This works fine and it should give you a lot of space to store things.

But I noticed that drive C: which has most of the applications and the Win95 on it was getting full. I tried to use some Win95 tools to find what was using all the space but never got there. Then I remembered the old Norton Utilities. I looked and there was FS.EXE a small file of 9600 bits. I read the on-line help and got to work.

Here is what I found but first an added feature of FS. Not only does it tell you how many bytes are used by a directory, and all the sub-directories, it tells you how many bytes are WASTED in the directories! The wasted bytes are important.

| Directory | Size in MBytes | Slack in % |
|-----------|----------------|------------|
|-----------|----------------|------------|



|            |       |    |
|------------|-------|----|
| \apl       | 12.3  | 2  |
| \bink      | 13.1  | 4  |
| \fbb       | 163.0 | 74 |
| \max       | 70.2  | 6  |
| \msoffice  | 60.5  | 2  |
| \progfiles | 14.8  | 6  |
| \windows   | 66    | 8  |

What is interesting is that the small FBB Packet bbs is hogging all the hard disk! The FBB program comes on 3 360k floppy disks. How does that expand to 163 million bytes?

The secret is the wasted bytes. Norton says 74% of the total bytes are wasted. So 163 times .74 is 120.6 megabytes are tied up but not used. The actual size of FBB is 163 - 120.6 = 42.4 megabytes.

DOS has many limitations. Since big Hard Drives are now available for less than the cost of floppy disk's (\$0.32/MB) on a per megabyte basis the Allocation Unit limit is getting to be a big problem.

When your Hard Drive has more than 262 but less than 524 megabytes the allocation unit becomes 8,192 bytes. The allocation unit is the smallest bin on the Hard Drive. What if I have a file that is only 450 bytes? What happens is the 450 bytes is stored in one allocation unit. 8,192 - 450 = 7,742 bytes are wasted in Slack.

How do I fix this problem? I make a logical drive on the Hard Disk that is less than 32.76 megabytes. The allocation unit will be 512 bytes on this drive. I will do this but I must back up the whole computer and then use FDISK.EXE to make new logical drives. When I get done I will have C:,D:,E:,F:,...M:,N:,O: out to another DOS limit which is Z:.

73, and Season's Greetings

de karl k5di

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

## 14. Infos -Mail list packet-

From: ferracci@imaginet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
 Date: Thu, 07 Dec 1995 15:56:54 GMT  
 To: bbssig@tapr.org  
 Message-ID: <30c5b24d.2065234@mail.imagnet.fr>  
 Rendered body type: text/plain

SB PACKET@FRANCA \$FRPACK  
 == Infos packet sur internet ! ==  
 Bonjour et merci de lire ce message,

si vous  tes un habitu  d'internet, vous avez sans doute constat  qu'il n'existe pour le moment aucun newsgroup \*\* francophone \*\* d di  aux communications digitales. Les seuls disponibles sont rec.radio.amateur.packet et rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc, peupl s de messages en provenance des USA ou d'autres pays francophones.

Pour rem dier   cette situation et tenter d'apporter une "solution", vous avez d sormais la possibilit  de vous abonner (gratuitement bien sur !)   une mail-list destin e   la communaut  "packetophile" francophone : fr-packet

Ses objectifs sont multiples :

- . informer des nouveaut s, tous syst mes confondus
- . parler de technique : vitesse rapide, spread spectrum, links Shf, ...
- . parler des logiciels packet : Graphic Packet, SP, TOP, FBB, TstHost, ...
- . faire se rencontrer des oms ayant les m mes centres d'int r t

Quelles conditions faut-il remplir pour vous inscrire à cette mail-list ?  
Simple : disposer d'un accès Email suffit !! Si vous n'en avez pas, appelez PAR MODEM le 7234-5437 (8N1, 14k4 maxi, Émulation VT100) : Ce BBS Lyonnais, Stdin, offre un accès Email et Newsgroup GRATUIT, vous ne payez que votre communication téléphonique !

====> Comment faire pour s'inscrire ?  
Si vous utilisez Stdin, lisez la conférence gatelink.ml.frpacket.  
Si vous n'utilisez pas Stdin, envoyez un email à request@stdin.gatelink.fr.net avec comme titre "subscribe fr-packet" (sans les "" !!) et sans message.

====> Pour vous désabonner, envoyez un email à request@stdin.gatelink.fr.net et "unsubscribe fr-packet" comme titre.

====> Pour envoyer un message lisible par tous les abonnés de la mail-list, envoyez un email à fr-packet@stdin.gatelink.fr.net et rentrez votre titre et texte du message normalement.

ATTENTION : le système gérant fr-packet n'est pas raccordé 24/24h sur internet, aussi ne vous attendez pas à recevoir un message confirmant votre abonnement sous 5 minutes, mais plutôt dans la journée (Stdin appelle son site internet plusieurs fois par jour) !

Je reste à la disposition des gens souhaitant avoir de plus amples informations, et espère que fr-packet saura satisfaire le plus grand nombre.  
N'oubliez pas :  
Vous n'avez pas seulement un rôle de consommateur, mais aussi celui d'acteur;  
fr-packet ne vivra que par VOS informations, VOS idées, VOS suggestions,  
aussi n'hésitez pas, ECRIVEZ :-)

Avant de terminer, un grand merci aux quelques gens qui ont permis de tester le fonctionnement de fr-packet, dans la plus grande discrétion, et au sysop de Stdin qui n'a pas manqué ses heures de travail pour que tout le système fonctionne, avec le moins de bugs possibles !!

73 Qro,

>>> Eric, F5PJE @ F6BIG.FRHA.FRA.EU / Lyon <<<  
>>> Email : ebertrem@curis.gatelink.fr.net <<<

/EX

```
-- +-----+-----+
-- | From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ | > ferracci@imaginet.fr < |
-- | Montpellier, FRANCE | http://www.imagnet.fr/~ferracci |
-- +-----+-----+
--
-- [PGP key on public-key servers]
```

---

## 15. Re: [BBSSIG:2021] Hard Drive Blues

From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <n3jix@epix.net>  
Date: Thu, 7 Dec 1995 17:01:39 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951207165830.11936A-100000@mango.epix.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 7 Dec 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> How do I fix this problem? I make a logical drive on the Hard  
> Disk that is less than 32.76 megabytes. The allocation unit will

> be 512 bytes on this drive. I will do this but I must back up the  
thanks for the info. This is the basic problem of allocation in DOS. Disk  
Manager will fix this by giving it a "strange" allocation unit size. It  
does seem to me that most version of UNIX uses 512 byte per allocation.  
This seems to work ok.

It does make you think about the FAT style disk storage...

More and more DOS limitations...

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \*  
\* Internet: n3jix@epix.net \*  
\* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/ \*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 16. Re: [BBSSIG:2023] Re: Hard Drive Blues

From: gwyn@paccomm.com (Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL)  
Date: Thu, 07 Dec 95 17:56:47 UTC  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <11519@paccomm.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Bill, N3JIX said:"It does make you think about the FAT style disk storage..."

Well, it has stretched a long way. I remember reading (at the time) of  
one of the big changes in CPM 2.0 that made CPM1.4 (widely used) not  
compatible - had to do with this same scheme and CPM 2.0 had room to  
allow up to 8.0 (countem - 8) Megabytes of hard disk.

I just got a couple of 'giggers' a 1.08 and a 1.23 Gigabyte drive. Set  
them up as multiple 250 Mb drives to avoid the problem.

But - if you are using Stacker or similar, doesn't it make the whole  
compressed drive one file? In that case, there would not be any significant  
space loss due to multiple small files.

-----  
Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL gwyn@paccomm.com W1BEL@amsat.org

PacComm Packet Radio Systems, Inc. + (813) 874-2980 Fax: + (813) 872-8696  
4413 N. Hesperides St. BBS: + (813) 874-3078 (V.34)  
Tampa, FL 33614-7618 USA info@paccomm.com http://www.paccomm.com/info

---

## 17. Re: [BBSSIG:2024] Re: Hard Drive Blues

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Thu, 7 Dec 1995 22:56:35 -0500 (EST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951207225154.18702A-100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Thu, 7 Dec 1995 gwyn@paccomm.com wrote:

> But - if you are using Stacker or similar, doesn't it make the whole  
> compressed drive one file? In that case, there would not be any significant  
> space loss due to multiple small files.

No. The compressed drive IS a single file on the uncompressed drive, but  
within the compressed 'drive' the same DOS limitations apply, hence the  
wasted space.

But to be fair to DOS, most OS's have this quirk, too. Most OS  
filesystems were written back when 360K floppies were thought to hold all  
the data you could EVER need ;-)

-----  
Brian A. Lantz http://www.lantz.com brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:  
while (memory\_available) {  
eat\_major\_portion\_of\_memory (no\_real\_reason);  
if (feel\_like\_it)  
make\_user\_THINK (this\_is\_an\_OS);  
gates\_bank\_balance++;  
}

## 18. Re: [BBSSIG:2021] Hard Drive Blues

From: Jim Rospopo <jrospopo@harold.eastky.com>  
Date: Fri, 8 Dec 1995 01:53:18 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512080653.BAA28805@harold.eastky.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 09:41 AM 12/7/95 -0600, you wrote:

>  
> Yesterday I decided to find out what happend. I have a 540  
> megabyte hard drive that I cut in two making two 250 megabyte  
> drives C: and D:. Then I used Double Space from DOS 6.21 to make  
> the two drives look like 500 megabite drives. This works fine and  
> it should give you a lot of space to store things.  
>  
> But I noticed that drive C: which has most of the  
> applications and the Win95 on it was getting full. I tried to use  
> some Win95 tools to find what was using all the space but never  
> got there. Then I remembered the old Norton Utilities. I looked  
> and there was FS.EXE a small file of 9600 bits. I read the on-line  
> help and got to work.  
>  
> Here is what I found but first an added feature of FS. Not  
> only does it tell you how many bytes are used by a directory, and  
> all the sub-directories, it tells you how many bytes are WASTED in  
> the directories! The wasted bytes are important.  
>  
> Directory        Size in MBytes        Slack in %  
>  
> \apl            12.3                    2  
> \bink           13.1                    4  
> \fbb            163.0                   74  
> \max            70.2                    6  
> \msoffice       60.5                    2  
> \progfiles      14.8                    6  
> \windows        66                     8  
>  
> What is interesting is that the small FBB Packet bbs is  
> hogging all the hard disk! The FBB program comes on 3 360k floppy  
> disks. How does that expand to 163 million bytes?  
>  
> The secret is the wasted bytes. Norton says 74% of the total  
> bytes are wasted. So 163 times .74 is 120.6 megabytes are tied up  
> but not used. The actual size of FBB is 163 - 120.6 = 42.4  
> megabytes.  
>  
> DOS has many limitations. Since big Hard Drives are now  
> available for less than the cost of floppy disk's (\$0.32/MB) on a  
> per megabyte basis the Allocation Unit limit is getting to be a  
> big problem.  
>  
> When your Hard Drive has more than 262 but less than 524  
> megabytes the allocation unit becomes 8,192 bytes. The allocation  
> unit is the smallest bin on the Hard Drive. What if I have a file  
> that is only 450 bytes? What happens is the 450 bytes is stored in  
> one allocation unit. 8,192 - 450 = 7,742 bytes are wasted in  
> Slack.  
>  
> How do I fix this problem? I make a logical drive on the Hard  
> Disk that is less than 32.76 megabytes. The allocation unit will  
> be 512 bytes on this drive. I will do this but I must back up the  
> whole computer and then use FDISK.EXE to make new logical drives.  
> When I get done I will have C:,D:,E:,F:,...M:,N:,O: out to another  
> DOS limit which is Z:.  
>  
> 73, and Season's Greetings  
>  
> de karl k5di  
>  
>  
> Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->  
>

Karl,

You might try looking at Partition Magic by Power Quest. This software allows you to repartition your hard drive without losing data and to change the cluster sizes to eliminate the wasted space. It addresses many of the concerns you mentioned in your note. This software was originally written

Jim

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

> But - if you are using Stacker or similar, doesn't it make the whole

> compressed drive one file? In that case, there would not be any significant  
> space loss due to multiple small files.

I think so. It would be neat to find someone who uses this and let us know. I know I don't use any "on the fly" hard drive compression...

73, de Bill, N3JIX  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \*  
\* Internet: n3jix@epix.net \*  
\* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/ \*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

## 22. Winpac 5.13

From: mharloff@spacotech.com  
Date: Fri, 8 Dec 1995 19:31:26 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512090131.TAA01243@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello All,

Looking for an FTP site to get "Winpac 5.13" from. Any help would be much appreciated.

73's de Mark KB2TXP <mharloff@spacotech.com>

---

## 23. Re: [BBSSIG:2030] Winpac 5.13

From: Rick Meuse N1HID <n1hid@usa1.com>  
Date: Fri, 08 Dec 1995 21:00:43 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512090201.VAA03475@spider.usa1.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 07:40 PM 12/8/95 -0600, you wrote:

>Hello All,

>

>Looking for an FTP site to get "Winpac 5.13" from. Any help would be  
>much appreciated.

>

>73's de Mark KB2TXP <mharloff@spacotech.com>

>

You can get it at tapr (ftp.tapr.org) or at Demon (ftp.demon.co.uk).

73 de Rick N1HID

---

## 24. Re: [BBSSIG:2030] Winpac 5.13

From: rmackay@cycor.ca (Ron VE1AIC)  
Date: Fri, 8 Dec 1995 22:53:41 -0400  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512090253.WAA14141@bud.peinet.pe.ca>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Hello All,

>

>Looking for an FTP site to get "Winpac 5.13" from. Any help would be  
>much appreciated.

>

>73's de Mark KB2TXP <mharloff@spacotech.com>

>

>

Here's where I got it:

ftp.ucsd.edu  
/hamradio/packet/tcpip/incoming

Winp513.zip 1.3 megs

73 - Ron VE1AIC

---

## 25. Re: [BBSSIG:2028] Re: Hard Drive Blues

From: Jim Rospopo <jrospopo@harold.eastky.com>  
Date: Sat, 9 Dec 1995 00:29:04 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512090529.AAA01132@harold.eastky.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

> Thanks Jim I will try Walden Software and see what it costs. And  
> make sure it is version 2.

Karl,

I don't know if Waldens would carry it. I ordered directly from Power Quest through a flyer they sent out. Their phone number is 1-800-379-2566. Cost was \$79.00 for the OS/2, Dos, Windows, Windows 95 version I got. They also had a version 2 that just worked with Dos, Windows, Windows 95 for \$59.00. You might also try calling Indelable Blue. Sorry don't have the number handy right at the moment. They are on the internet. Try [www.indelable.com](http://www.indelable.com) or something like that.

Jim

---

## 26. Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 10 Dec 1995 11:26:17 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512101826.LAA07862@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

In an earlier message I explained that FBB \mail and \binmail which had a large number of small files within them were taking 163,000,000 Bytes from my Hard Drive and had a lot of unused space called Slack.

I received several messages from SySop's telling me I was wrong or addle brained or just stupid. To those I say go look in a mirror. What you see is what you called me...

Today (Sunday) I was thinking of backing up the entire Hard Drive and may still do that, but instead decided to run "cleanup.com" which is an application that comes with FBB. I use it so seldom I forget how to. You go to DOS and the fbb\system directory. The type "cleanup \fbb\mail" and it reads everything in the \mail directory and then says "delete 1,456 messages?". It makes you say Yes 3 times before it does it.

From the looks of things I need to run cleanup more often. Of course there is nothing in the manual telling you how often to do this. In fact it just tells you what to do. My guess would be once a month.

Anyhow I used fs.exe to check the \fbb directory again and got these new results:

18,791,735 Bytes in 2,949 files. 38,273,024 Bytes of disk space occupied due to only 50% of the average allocation unit (cluster) being used. In other words I am wasting 18,000,000 Bytes storing FBB on this Hard Drive with an allocation unit size of 8,000+ Bytes.

This morning I re-adjusted the size of my H: compressed drive so I have 40,000,000 Bytes free on the D: uncompressed drive. The allocation unit size on D: is 4,000+ Bytes. When I put the \mail and \binmail directories in D: drive they will waste 1/2 as much space. This will be good enuf for me, and most of you.

So my message to all you FBB or AA4RE or ?? SySop's with 500 Megabyte or larger Hard Drives, make sure you make a small logical drive on your hard drive for message files. Or just figure to waste 18,000,000 bytes. The optimum size is 32 megabytes.

The next time I "fdisk.exe" a hard drive I will sure make 2 32 MB logical drives. These will have allocation unit size of 512 Bytes. Great place to store small files!

Oh Yes. When was the last time YOU used "Cleanup.com"? That's too bad!

73, de karl k5di

Merry Christmas to You and Yours

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

## 27. Re: [BBSSIG:2021] Hard Drive Blues

From: pipe2@oeonline.com  
Date: Sun, 10 Dec 95 18:42 EST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0t0vNz-000ACxC@oeonline.oeonline.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Linux comes with a small utility called, if I remember right, fips.exe. It lets you adjust the size of DOS partitions WITHOUT WIPEING THEM OUT. This way you don't need to back them up so that you can restore after repartitioning. I have used the utility a few times before and have not had any problems with it.

-Bill kb8wyp

At 09:41 AM 12/7/95 -0600, you wrote:

>  
> Yesterday I decided to find out what happend. I have a 540  
>megabyte hard drive that I cut in two making two 250 megabyte  
>drives C: and D:. Then I used Double Space from DOS 6.21 to make  
>the two drives look like 500 megabite drives. This works fine and  
>it should give you a lot of space to store things.  
>  
> But I noticed that drive C: which has most of the  
>applications and the Win95 on it was getting full. I tried to use  
>some Win95 tools to find what was using all the space but never  
>got there. Then I remembered the old Norton Utilities. I looked  
>and there was FS.EXE a small file of 9600 bits. I read the on-line  
>help and got to work.  
>  
> Here is what I found but first an added feature of FS. Not  
>only does it tell you how many bytes are used by a directory, and  
>all the sub-directories, it tells you how many bytes are WASTED in  
>the directories! The wasted bytes are important.  
>  
>Directory        Size in MBytes        Slack in %  
>  
>\apl            12.3                    2  
>\bink           13.1                    4  
>\fbb            163.0                   74  
>\max            70.2                    6  
>\msoffice       60.5                    2  
>\progmfiles    14.8                    6  
>\windows        66                      8  
>  
> What is interesting is that the small FBB Packet bbs is  
>hogging all the hard disk! The FBB program comes on 3 360k floppy  
>disks. How does that expand to 163 million bytes?  
>  
> The secret is the wasted bytes. Norton says 74% of the total  
>bytes are wasted. So 163 times .74 is 120.6 megabytes are tied up  
>but not used. The actual size of FBB is 163 - 120.6 = 42.4  
>megabytes.  
>  
> DOS has many limitations. Since big Hard Drives are now  
>available for less than the cost of floppy disk's (\$0.32/MB) on a  
>per megabyte basis the Allocation Unit limit is getting to be a  
>big problem.  
>  
> When your Hard Drive has more than 262 but less than 524  
>megabytes the allocation unit becomes 8,192 bytes. The allocation  
>unit is the smallest bin on the Hard Drive. What if I have a file  
>that is only 450 bytes? What happens is the 450 bytes is stored in  
>one allocation unit. 8,192 - 450 = 7,742 bytes are wasted in  
>Slack.  
>  
> How do I fix this problem? I make a logical drive on the Hard  
>Disk that is less than 32.76 megabytes. The allocation unit will  
>be 512 bytes on this drive. I will do this but I must back up the  
>whole computer and then use FDISK.EXE to make new logical drives.  
>When I get done I will have C:,D:,E:,F:,...M:,N:,O: out to another  
>DOS limit which is Z:.  
>  
>73, and Season's Greetings  
>  
> de karl k5di  
>  
>  
>Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->



>  
>  
>

---

## 28. Re: [BBSSIG:2029] Re: Hard Drive Blues

From: pipe2@oeonline.com  
Date: Sun, 10 Dec 95 18:50 EST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0t0vWD-000AW5C@oeonline.oeonline.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I have run Stacker for four years now so I can say for certain that it loses space \*exactly\* the same way that DOS does. The compressed drive is a huge file called stacvol.dsk (for a stacker drive, I don't know what dblspace calls it). The file itself wastes no space on the drive it's on, it uses 100% of each cluster it uses. But on the compressed drive (i.e. inside the stacvol.dsk file), there are the same problems as those encountered in plain ol' DOS.

-Bill kb8wyp

At 06:09 PM 12/8/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>On Thu, 7 Dec 1995 gwyn@paccomm.com wrote:  
>  
>> I just got a couple of 'giggers' a 1.08 and a 1.23 Gigabyte drive. Set  
>> them up as multiple 250 Mb drives to avoid the problem.  
>  
>Yeah, that's what I've read too.. It's interesting about losing space on  
>small files..  
>  
>> But - if you are using Stacker or similar, doesn't it make the whole  
>> compressed drive one file? In that case, there would not be any significant  
>> space loss due to multiple small files.  
>  
>I think so. It would be neat to find someone who uses this and let us  
>know. I know I don't use any "on the fly" hard drive compression..  
>  
>  
>73, de Bill, N3JIX  
>\*\*\*\*\*  
>\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \*  
>\* Internet: n3jix@epix.net \*  
>\* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/ \*  
>\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
>\*\*\*\*\*  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>

---

## 29. Re: [BBSSIG:2034] Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr.)  
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 00:31:32 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <30cb7ab1.22042555@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Sun, 10 Dec 1995 12:32:47 -0600 (CST), you wrote:

> In an earlier message I explained that FBB \mail and \binmail  
> which had a large number of small files within them were taking  
> 163,000,000 Bytes from my Hard Drive and had a lot of unused space  
> called Slack.

I just checked mine. I am running about 17 meg in the entire FBB tree. This includes many beta versions of servers, plus all of my user accessible files, but does not include 6 meg of KE@WODX data files, or the 28 meg of SAM database directory I keep elsewhere.

> Today (Sunday) I was thinking of backing up the entire Hard  
> Drive and may still do that, but instead decided to run  
> "cleanup.com" which is an application that comes with FBB. I use  
> it so seldom I forget how to. You go to DOS and the fbb\system  
> directory. The type "cleanup \fbb\mail" and it reads everything in  
> the \mail directory and then says "delete 1,456 messages?". It  
> makes you say Yes 3 times before it does it.

I'm not sure I have ever run this program. I'm wondering if it should be



I back up the configuration, for the most part. I make no attempt to backup up the message base. Messages are in and out in minutes. If it's lost, it's lost. The program, the configuration, the servers, the database files, etc., get backed up about once every six months, or any time there is a major change. That machine will have its own tape soon, so it might be done a little more often after that, certainly no more frequent than weekly maybe even monthly. Right now, it is backed to tape via interlink to another machine at the other end of the house.

## 32. Bounced message

```
--
Original message:

--
Date: Dec 11 '95, 02:33
Attr: Pvt Fwrd Kill
From: bbssig@tapr.org, (1:109/41.0)
To : Sean McClanahan, (1:109/2001.0)
Subj: [BBSSIG:2038] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2
--
From: bbssig@tapr.org

* From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <n3jix@epix.net>
* Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org
* To: bbssig@tapr.org
```

```
> Oh Yes. When was the last time YOU used "Cleanup.com"? That's
Not to "beat my own drum" here, but WØRLI has that stuff built in.
It's
run every night in my cron... So It does take care of old messages and
deletes them for me. That's why DEFRAg is part of my weekly maintenance
routine. I usually do that right after I back up the PBBS.
```

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stuff, including the messages, and other related files?

I'm just curious...

```
73, de Bill, N3JIX

* Bill Barnes, N3JIX *
* Internet: n3jix@epix.net *
* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/ *
* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam *

```

```
--- FIDOGATE 3.9.3
@Via FIDOGATE/rfc2ftn 1:109/41, Sun Dec 10 1995 at 21:41:40 GMT
@Via FIDOGATE/ftntoss 1:109/42, Sun Dec 10 1995 at 21:50:32 GMT
```

---

### 33. Re: [BBSSIG:2039] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

```
From: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 21:22:51 +1300 (NZDT)
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951211210457.12705A-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

Hi,

Being rather new to this SIG I would 1st like to say how much information I have massed from it..

Re Hard Drive Blues:

All I can say if a BBS is not doing a FULL Housekeep every day then 1 is heading for trouble eventually..

Having had this BBS in operation now for nearly 5 years, one thing I have learnt is make sure the housekeeping is up todate..

My BBS runs many servers including CLIVE Database,Auto7p and others and at housekeep it goes through different Clean Up operations..

It does all the standard FBB routines and also does Norton Unfrag /Speeddisk and also one other very important thing it runs McAfee Virus Scan across the whole HD , this house keep takes up to one and a half hours every morning and with the advent of Automatic collection of AUTO7P files I feel a Virus check is 100% vital as I have many hundreds of files that pass through here with CLIVE etc..

I have never had the problem of SLACK on the hard drive..

If you would like to see the APPEL.BAT let me know ,I will send a personal copy..

73 Phillip ZL2TZE @ ZL2TZE  
ZL White Page Co-Ordinator  
zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

### 34. Bounced message

```
From: NetMgr+@f5.n109.z1.fidonet.org (NetMgr+)
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 02:53:16 +0000
To: bbssig@tapr.org (bbssig)
Message-ID: <MSGID_1=3A109=2F5.0_cb9d1c0@fidonet.org>
Rendered body type: text/plain
```

--

The following message(s) is being sent back to your system for this reason:

NO SUCH NODE NUMBER EXISTS IN THE CURRENT NODELIST FOR THE INTENDED ADDRESS.

Please check you configuration files, or wait until the intended recipient is officially listed in the FidoNet Nodelist. Thank you.



To : Sean Mcclanahan, (1:109/2001.0)  
Subj: [BBSSIG:2040] Bounced message

--  
From: bbssig@tapr.org

\* From: NetMgr+@f5.n109.z1.fidonet.org (NetMgr+)  
\* Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
\* To: bbssig@tapr.org

--

The following message(s) is being sent back to your system for this reason:

NO SUCH NODE NUMBER EXISTS IN THE CURRENT NODELIST FOR THE INTENDED ADDRESS.

Please check you configuration files, or wait until the intended recipient is officially listed in the FidoNet Nodelist. Thank you.

--

Original message:

--

Date: Dec 11 '95, 02:33  
Attr: Pvt Fwrld Kill  
From: bbssig@tapr.org, (1:109/41.0)  
To : Sean Mcclanahan, (1:109/2001.0)  
Subj: [BBSSIG:2038] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

--

From: bbssig@tapr.org

\* From: "Bill Barnes, N3JIX" <n3jix@epix.net>  
\* Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
\* To: bbssig@tapr.org

On Sun, 10 Dec 1995, Karl F. Larsen wrote:

> The next time I "fdisk.exe" a hard drive I will sure make 2  
> 32 MB logical drives. These will have allocation unit size of 512  
> Bytes. Great place to store small files!

Yeah, I have 2 40 meg hard drives in my PBBS machine, and it uses the 2k allocation unit. It doesn't seem to waste much, but I pay for it in the smaller size of the hard drive.

> Oh Yes. When was the last time YOU used "Cleanup.com"? That's

Not to "beat my own drum" here, but W0RLI has that stuff built in. It's run every night in my cron... So It does take care of old messages and

deletes them for me. That's why DEFRAG is part of my weekly maintenance routine. I usually do that right after I back up the PBBS.

There something that I don't hear much of. Who all backs up their PBBS stuff, including the messages, and other related files?

I'm just curious...

73, de Bill, N3JIX

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Bill Barnes, N3JIX \*  
\* Internet: n3jix@epix.net \*  
\* WWW: http://www.epix.net/~n3jix/ \*  
\* Packet : n3jix@n3jix.#epa.pa.usa.noam \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

--- FIDOGATE 3.9.3  
@Via FIDOGATE/rfc2ftn 1:109/41, Sun Dec 10 1995 at 21:41:40 GMT  
@Via FIDOGATE/ftntoss 1:109/42, Sun Dec 10 1995 at 21:50:32 GMT

--- FIDOGATE 3.9.3  
@Via FIDOGATE/rfc2ftn 1:109/41, Mon Dec 11 1995 at 02:17:32 GMT  
@Via FIDOGATE/ftntoss 1:109/42, Mon Dec 11 1995 at 02:20:28 GMT

---

### 36. Re: [BBSSIG:2038] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: lkenney@slip.net (Larry Kenney)  
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 00:41:00 -0800  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512110841.AAA17930@slip-1.slip.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Bill, N3JIX, wrote:

>That's why DEFRAG is part of my weekly maintenance  
>routine. I usually do that right after I back up the PBBS.  
>  
>There something that I don't hear much of. Who all backs up their PBBS  
>stuff, including the messages, and other related files?  
>  
>I'm just curious...

I back up the files occasionally, but the messages come and go so fast  
I'd have to back those up daily to make it worth it, so I don't.

As for CLEANUP.COM, what does it actually do? Karl siad he got a  
prompt asking if he wanted to delete 1,456 messages. That would get  
rid of about 95% of my message base! :-)

73, Larry, WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
lkenney@slip.net

---

### 37. Re: [BBSSIG:2042] Bounced message

From: Greg Jones <wd5ivd@tapr.org>  
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 03:11:45 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512110911.DAA25656@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Would whoever is forwarding the BBS SIG to FidoNet please take care of this  
error.

Cheers - Greg

>  
>  
> --  
>  
> The following message(s) is being sent back to your system for this  
> reason:  
>  
> NO SUCH NODE NUMBER EXISTS IN THE CURRENT NODELIST FOR THE INTENDED  
> ADDRESS.  
>  
> Please check you configuration files, or wait until the intended  
> recipient  
> is officially listed in the FidoNet Nodelist. Thank you.  
>  
>  
> --  
>  
> Original message:  
>  
> --  
> Date: Dec 11 '95, 07:03  
> Attr: Pvt Fwr'd Kill  
> From: bbssig@tapr.org, (1:109/41.0)  
> To : Sean Mcclanahan, (1:109/2001.0)  
> Subj: [BBSSIG:2039] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2  
> --  
> From: bbssig@tapr.org  
>  
> \* From: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr.)  
> \* Reply-To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> \* To: bbssig@tapr.org

```
> /-_- - (/|-|/-|/)
> (-)(//(-) -(|-)(-// |)
> /
> mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us
```



>I back up the files occasionally, but the messages come and go so fast  
>I'd have to back those up daily to make it worth it, so I don't.  
>  
>As for CLEANUP.COM, what does it actually do? Karl siad he got a  
>prompt asking if he wanted to delete 1,456 messages. That would get  
>rid of about 95% of my message base! :-)

Those 1,456 messages should have been killed a month ago by the system but it did not do it for some reason. Probably because I was turning it on and off for weeks at a time.

>  
>73, Larry, WB9LOZ@W6PW.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM  
>lkenney@slip.net  
>  
>  
>  
>  
Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

#### 40. RE: [BBSSIG:2038] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: "James R. Brooks" <jbrooks@midusa.net>  
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 16:02:47 -0000  
To: "'bbssig@tapr.org'" <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <01BAC7E3.0D05D6A0@jbrooks1.ix.netcom.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> There something that I don't hear much of. Who all backs up their PBBS  
> stuff, including the messages, and other related files?  
>  
> I'm just curious...

>  
>  
> 73, de Bill, N3JIX  
>  
>

I learned the hard way! I now do a full-system backup here about once a month, and have automatically scheduled incremental backups daily. This does include all PBBS stuff. Strangely enough, since I started that practice I've not yet had to do a restore. Before I started...well, that's another story!

73 de Jim, K0JJV

---

#### 41. FIPS.EXE

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 14:57:38 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512112157.0AA28910@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Well I gave it a good try with FIPS.EXE which is supposed to allow you to split a logical drive into 2 parts. But I discovered today it will only do this with the DOS drive that is active, never a logical DOS drive that is not active.

When I did a lot of file moving and got 33 meg free on the bootable C: drive and tried to split it. Alas it would not do this. And now am sure it's because I am using Win95 and that DOS is different from what FIPS wants to work with.

I did all my tests with FIPS version 1.1 and perhaps a newer version is out, but not sure at all...

I used it on another computer running DOS 6.21 and it worked just fine. So I am done.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

#### 42. Re: [BBSSIG:2044] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: Sid Ashen-Brenner <sashen@midusa.net>  
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 16:44:06 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512112244.QAA12176@services.midusa.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 03:06 AM 12/11/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>Bill, N3JIX, wrote:

[some deleted]

>>There something that I don't hear much of. Who all backs up their PBBS  
>>stuff, including the messages, and other related files?

For a while, I did it automatically as part of the housecleaning routine.  
When it started failing I stopped. Since then, I have overhauled the tape  
drive, bought NEW tapes, and backup the BBS about every 45-60 days.

>>I'm just curious...

>

>I back up the files occasionally, but the messages come and go so fast  
>I'd have to back those up daily to make it worth it, so I don't.

Gotta agree ... backing up the message base is largely a waste of time and tape!

>As for CLEANUP.COM, what does it actually do? Karl siad he got a  
>prompt asking if he wanted to delete 1,456 messages. That would get  
>rid of about 95% of my message base! :-)

Didn't find a CLEANUP.COM anywhere with my FBB ..... CLEAN-WP (as an Add-in)  
yes, but no CLEANUP.COM

- - - - -  
Sid Ashen-Brenner (n0obm) Packet: n0obm @ n0obm.#ncks.ks.usa.noam  
Salina Regional Health Center Fidonet: 1:295/6 Salina Packet Systems BBS

Salina, Kansas 67401

sashen@midusa.net

---

#### 43. Re: [BBSSIG:2049] FIPS.EXE

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 17:58:13 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512112358.RAA01436@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Carl,

I've also used FIPS and am pretty sure there is something later than  
ver 1.1 - I'll dig it up if anyone really wants to know.

For clarification, if you plan to run FIPS on a drive that already  
contains data, you need to defrag the disk. This moves all data to  
one "end" of the disk. Then FIPS will split the clean area of the  
partition without damaging the data in the previous partition.

One of the previuos posts implied the capability of splitting a  
partition with unconditional data retention. I don't believe  
this is the case.

73  
Barry

---

#### 44. Re: [BBSSIG:2039] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: "Charles Brabham" <n5pvl@texoma.com>  
Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1995 23:10:05 +0000  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512120510.XAA21854@mercury.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Backing up BBS files:

I just back up the config files, and the FILES section.. My theory is that a fresh  
install eliminates a lot of problems. I start off by reformatting the  
hard-drive, and go from scratch about once a year, if not more often.

If you have all the config files on hand, it only takes an hour or  
two, and keeps you familiar with the software. Normally, this is also  
when I incorporate changes into the BBS, such as switching server  
programs or operating systems around, or re-partitioning the HD, ect..  
The fresh start acts as the ultimate "uninstall" program, getting rid of the useless  
files which tend to accumulate on a HD more effectively than anything

else. After the installation of each major component ( DOS, QEMM,WFW, BPQ, FBB ) I run a virus scan.

On those occasions when I shut down to do a major re-organization like this, I see to it that all the personal messages are forwarded out of the system, and don't worry about the bulletins which go into the "bit bucket".

I think the tape-backup of the whole system has merit too, but I don't have a tape backup unit and detest the chore of floppy-backups.

My BBS runs under WFW, networked to my WIN95 machine. This allows me to easily back up files over the network link, or edit them for that matter. I could use this for a total backup, but don't. Old setups tend to get filled up with trivial, useless files and remnants of old servers. Also, old setups tend to have virus damaged executables after a while. I feel it's best to zap them all and replace them with fresh copies from time to time.

If I made a full tape or network backup of my system, it would be right after a fresh install and virus check.

73 DE Charles N5PVL @ N5PVL.#NTX.TX.USA.NOAM

If it works, don't fix it.

---

#### 45. Re: [BBSSIG:2050] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 12 Dec 1995 05:46:31 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512121246.FAA25480@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Lots deleted.....

>Didn't find a CLEANUP.COM anywhere with my FBB ..... CLEAN-WP (as an Add-in)  
>yes, but no CLEANUP.COM

CLEANUP.COM comes with FBB version 5.15A and higher. Look in the  
FBB\BIN directory Sid.  
>

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

#### 46. Re: [BBSSIG:2051] Re: FIPS.EXE

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 12 Dec 1995 05:46:34 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512121246.FAA25483@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 06:15 PM 12/11/95 -0600, you wrote:

>Carl,

>

>

>I've also used FIPS and am pretty sure there is something later than  
>ver 1.1 - I'll dig it up if anyone really wants to know.

>

Yes I am interested in any later work the German guy has done.

>For clarification, if you plan to run FIPS on a drive that already  
>contains data, you need to defrag the disk. This moves all data to  
>one "end" of the disk. Then FIPS will split the clean area of the  
>partition without damaging the data in the previous partition.

I used the win95 Defrag as defined by the .doc that comes with FIPS.

>

>One of the previous posts implied the capability of splitting a  
>partition with unconditional data retention. I don't believe  
>this is the case.

>

>73

>Barry

>

According to FIPS it will never split off a new logical drive if there is anything on the part it will split off.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

#### 47. Re: [BBSSIG:2053] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: Sid Ashen-Brenner <sashen@midusa.net>  
Date: Tue, 12 Dec 1995 21:36:18 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512130336.VAA18870@services.midusa.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 06:56 AM 12/12/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>  
> Lots deleted.....  
>  
>  
>>Didn't find a CLEANUP.COM anywhere with my FBB ..... CLEAN-WP (as an Add-in)  
>>yes, but no CLEANUP.COM  
>  
> CLEANUP.COM comes with FBB version 5.15A and higher. Look in the  
>FBB\BIN directory Sid.

I used Norton's File Find utility on all 3 drives in the BBS machine.....  
No CLEANUP.COM (or .EXE either) on any of the 3 drives. I've been running  
FBB Version 5.15C since the week it arrived at N7MRP's landline BBS. Been  
running FBB since Version 5.14 .... prior to that, ran MSYS.

- - - - -  
Sid Ashen-Brenner (n0obm) Packet: n0obm @ n0obm.#ncks.ks.usa.noam  
Salina Regional Health Center Fidonet: 1:295/6 Salina Packet Systems BBS

Salina, Kansas 67401

sashen@midusa.net

---

#### 48. Re: [BBSSIG:2055] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 1995 19:04:21 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951213181054.16540C-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I haven't included the original message re CLEANUP.COM..

But some may find this useful..

I have several versions of FBB and from what i can see the COM ,EXE files  
are always included within the Original Upgrade.

Those that are running 5.15c, have you checked to see if this is an  
authentic Release version..

When 5.15c was due for release there appeared on the NZ scene a couple of  
versions of this upgrade ..Pre release of F6FBB message that 5.15c was  
available..

These versions all had different faults ,different COM.EXE files missing or  
File sizes different from each other...

The same problems were had with the early version of 5.15b also..

I obtained an Original from Jean-Paul and the REQCFG returns a date of  
Feb 05 1994.. ( This Release version contained 5.15b and the Upgrade to  
5.15c )

This version has never Crashed,never given any problems at all compared  
to the other versions..

The Interesting thing is that as Far as I am aware there was never a  
straight 5.15c Upgrade ( I could be wrong ) you had to have 5.15b  
then upgrade to 5.15c ( All this was supplied by Jean-Paul )

Now CLEANUP.COM is a very important part of FBB as it removes all old  
mail from your MAIL and BINMAIL directories ( See FBB DOCS )

This COM is set in your INIT.SRV and is run at Housekeep which is also set  
in the same...



Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

Type also timeout-values you want, the default values here should be OK.  
Put alsoin the number of hours (+ or -) between the PCs Local-time and UTC.

```
Time (hour) for cleanup of Messages
02
#
#
Time-out for normal use (minutes)
10
#
Time-out during forward (minutes)
15
#
Hours +/- in relation to UTC
0
#
```

Read also Page -93  
15.10 CLEANUP.COM (BIN)

~~~~~  
Utility killing all message files unused and not defined in DIRMES.SYS.  
This program should be run from the SYSTEM directory.

The syntax is of the type :

CLEANUP mail\_directory

Be careful when using this utility. If another directory than MAIL or BINMAIL  
is specified, it should delete all the files of the directory..

-----  
Warning !!!!!!!!  
Stop FBB before doing this....Don't SWAPP to DOS and RUN ...SHUT DOWN FBB...

This is not in the MANUAL.....

Also do you run from APPEL.BAT

echo Cleaning up message files....  
epurmess  
epurwp 40 100

.....  
READ Page - 24  
5.4 EPURMESS.INI

READ Page - 81  
15.2 EPURMESS.COM (BIN)  
.....

If anyone needs the 515GB.DOC please let me know and I will UUE it to you..

>  
> If all fails I would suggest that you obtain a Copy of the Original Release  
> of 5.15c...  
>  
> The original release of version 5.15, 5.15b and 5.15c are available  
> from the internet here. As you say there was never a version 5.15c ever  
> provided. You were requested to first load 5.15, then 5.15b and then 5.15c.  
>  
Are you sure that these are Originals because the 1st that arrived here  
in NZ was from Internet and was only a beta test version made to look  
like the original...

I hope this helps..

73 Phillip  
zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

## 53. WINFBB

From: Guido Tedeschi <guidoted@mbx.vol.it>  
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 1995 19:50:25 +100  
To: "'TAPR BBSSIG'" <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <01BAC994.5E2A8E60@tibs2.vol.it>  
Rendered body type: text/plain  
  
Ciao from Italy !

Anyone is using a beta version of WINFBB or knows how to contact Jean Paul F6FBB ?

We are running (unattended, at local club house) FBB515C over BPQ408a in a WIN95 DOS task.  
All is working okay since 4 months but we have had memory problems because FBB don't recognize the XMS driver of WIN95 (EMM386 with NOEMS gives much more upper memory which WIN95 can use).  
So, we use EMS but, to have more than 60/70k free in FBB (below 60k the software is not all there....), the lifetime of messages has been reduced to 7 days.  
Besides, when some fwd BBS partner goes down for some hours and the pending messages eats the memory, below 60/70k free, some servers runs incorrectly.....

If the last beta of WINFBB is running with no serious bugs, I think that our problems will be solved with it and with about 400 messages per day we can be good beta testers..... HI

Bye and 73's, Guido

Packet : IK2BCP @ I2N0S.BS.ILOM.ITA.EU  
Internet : ik2bcp@amsat.org or guidoted@mbx.vol.it

---

## 54. DOS Version FBB

From: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Thu, 14 Dec 1995 08:45:38 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951214084110.17763A-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

I am looking for any beta test sites that have a beta test version later than 5.15c, Must be a DOS Version...

Also is there anywhere that I can subscribe to that has FBB info..

73 Phillip  
zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

## 55. FBB

From: Michael Burke <bpa@dicyt.nrc.edu.bo>  
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 95 18:39:53 -0500  
To: "bbssig@tapr.org" <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <199512132240.SAA00417@dicyt.nrc.edu.bo>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

-- [ From: Michael Burke \* EMC.Ver #2.5.02 ] --

I am looking for information concerning the availability of FBB for a windows environment.

Can anyone help or provide this version?

Mike -cp5vw

---

## 56. Re: [BBSSIG:2063] FBB

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 1995 16:34:30 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512132334.QAA05245@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 04:50 PM 12/13/95 -0600, you wrote:

>-- [ From: Michael Burke \* EMC.Ver #2.5.02 ] --

>

>I am looking for information concerning the availability of FBB for a  
>windows environment.

>

>Can anyone help or provide this version?

>

>Mike -cp5vw

>

>

I recommend FBB version 5.15C which I have run on windows 3.1 and 3.1.1 and now run under win95. It is a DOS program that runs fine under windows.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 57. Re: [BBSSIG:2061] WINFBB

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 1995 18:50:22 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512140050.SAA22894@zeus.ia.net>



Rendered body type: text/plain

In response to several inquiries:

There is a test version of FBB for windows being tested by a few specific people. It is NOT generally available.

I'm not aware of the feedback path for the testers to send bug reports back to FBB. If any of the testers would like to send me a comments in a private message, I'll post them anonymously.

73 Barry

---

## 58. Re: [BBSSIG:2065] Re: WINFBB

From: Dean R Madsen <dmadsen@iastate.edu>  
Date: Wed, 13 Dec 1995 23:43:49 CST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <9512140543.AA12501@py6f27.vincent.iastate.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
>I'm not aware of the feedback path for the testers to send bug reports  
>back to FBB. If any of the testers would like to send me a comments  
>in a private message, I'll post them anonymously.  
>  
>73 Barry

The code is NOT publically available, DOS nor Windows versions. The latest release remains 5.15c. When the release occurs, I am sure there will be announcements, etc when it is ready. When I get the release version I will make sure to upload it to ftp.funet.fi (and ftp.tapr.org if there is a directory for it).

In my opinion, the curious should NOT pester F6FBB. There are beta test coordinators for the different continents that sign up new beta testers, etc.

In my opinion, those wanting to "beta test" a pretty much bug free version of WinFBB do not truly have their hearts in beta testing. The code is supposed to crash, hang, produce errors on beta test sites so the bugs can be found and eliminated before it is released. Released versions are supposed to be bug free and stable, not beta versions.

The WinFBB .EXE is about 800K plus several runtime libraries and .DLL programs to handle various activities. Significant work has been done since the last release. Be patient. I believe the end product will be worth the wait.

To settle any remaining doubts, there WILL be another DOS version of FBB. From the discussion between beta testers, I have gathered that the DOS version may have fewer bugs than the windows version (thus the great effort on the windows version?).

For bug reports, beta testers use a mailing list. Messages sent to the list are copied to other beta testers and F6FBB.

73,  
Dean - KE0W0

```
+++++
+ Dean R Madsen, KE0W0 Computer Science Major +
+ Internet: dmadsen@iastate.edu Iowa State Univeristy +
+ ke0wo@iastate.edu Ames, Iowa +
+ AX25: KE0W0 @ KE0W0.#WIA.IA.USA.NA FBB Beta tester Cellist +
+ Secretary for the Tristate Amateur Packet Association +
+ Treasurer for the Cyclone Amateur Radio Club +
+++++
```

---

## 59. New Windows FBB

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Thu, 14 Dec 1995 06:36:09 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512141336.GAA08659@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I think we are missing the boat here. While the new software will make the BBS look great to the SysOp, it will look EXACTLY the same to the users. We need to do something that makes the BBS look better to the user.



## 62. WinLink-bpq

From: Michael Burke <bpa@dicyt.nrc.edu.bo>  
Date: Thu, 14 Dec 95 17:48:35 -0500  
To: "bbssig@tapr.org" <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <199512142150.RAA04979@dicyt.nrc.edu.bo>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

-- [ From: Michael Burke \* EMC.Ver #2.5.02 ] --

Hello

Anyone out there have data on running WinLink with G8BPQ instead of MBBIOS?

Please help!

Mike - cp5vw (bpa@dicyt.nrc.edu.bo)

---

## 63. Re: [BBSSIG:2048] Re: Hard Drive Blues Part 2

From: KN6UO@aol.com  
Date: Fri, 15 Dec 1995 00:53:58 -0500  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <951215005355\_73412184@emout05.mail.aol.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

In a message dated 95-12-11 15:25:12 EST, you write:

>>  
>> There something that I don't hear much of. Who all backs up their PBBS  
>> stuff, including the messages, and other related files?  
>>  
>> I'm just curious...  
>>  
>>  
>> 73, de Bill, N3JIX  
>>  
>>  
>I learned the hard way! I now do a full-system backup here about once a  
>month, and have automatically scheduled incremental backups daily. This  
>does  
>include all PBBS stuff. Strangely enough, since I started that practice  
>I've  
>not yet had to do a restore. Before I started...well, that's another story!  
>  
>73 de Jim, K0JJV

I also learned the hard way. I had the hard drive on the bbs go about 3 weeks ago. The computer is up on a hill and so I can't do scheduled back ups. I have installes a second hard drive and back up to it when ever I visit the hill. I was lucky, in that the bbs is new and has not come up to speed yet (few users and messages). I am glad I learned the lesson now rather than latter. I seem to be one of those people who have to learn most everything the hard way. Maybe some one will learn from my mistakes.

73  
Kevin

---

## 64. Red Face

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Fri, 15 Dec 1995 13:00:44 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512152000.NAA06213@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Boy, I an STILL having problems with 200 messages a day becoming old but not deleted. At wits end I looked at the file in FBB that expires messages. It is named something-that-makes-sense in French, but is just garbage in English. EPURMESS.INI lives in the \FBB directory, if you loaded up FBB like they wanted you to. I looked and for some reason it has the directory where the \mail and \binmail directories are located. It said to look in the C:\FBB\MAIL directory. This is fine except I know have that stuff in the D:\MAIL directories...

So I changed the line in EPURMESS.INI and rechecked the other strange French file INIT.SRV which is super important, but for some reason it was correct...

-karl

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 65. WINFBB NOW!!!!

From: Josep M <coyote@lnst.es>  
Date: Fri, 15 Dec 1995 22:08:24 +0100  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512152114.WAA23951@ns1.lnst.es>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hello to all ....

For those which you are seeking the FBB for Windows can go you to the directory /tapr/software\_lib/upload and in case that the coordinator already the may have put where it must be , found in /tapr/software\_lib/bbs. The name of the file is WINFBB.ARJ. Attention..!!! This version is beta, precisely the beta #52, and still has several problems.

For those which work with W95 and the version for DOS should follow the following steps:

- 1- Download the WINFBB.ARJ of TAPR
- 2- Change the file SERV.EXE for which comes and that it has a length of 482048 bytes.
- 3- Upon executing gave you mistakes in the file ++INIT.++SRV therefore in the section of background colors, where is specified the STATUS (TOP), you will have to put a # so that the program not read that line.

For any doubt mail me. If serves you as reference I am using under W95 the FBB from 2 months ago without problems and too I have configured the INIT.SRV of the WINFBB so that they share the mail without problem. That is to say... that when it comes me in earns I start an or other version. The only one bug that have is that do not operate the unprotos. But for those which we likes to experience already that is all right.

A greeting to all and I wait your comments.....

73's Coyote

```

 \\|//
 (^ ^)
 . - - - +-----o00--()--00o-----+
 | Josep Ma
 | E-Mail: coyote@lnst.es
 | P.O.Box 407 25080 Lleida (Spain)
 +-----+

```

---

## 66. Re: [BBSSIG:2073] WINFBB NOW!!!!

From: "Charles Brabham" <n5pvl@texoma.com>  
Date: Sat, 16 Dec 1995 10:24:33 +0000  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512161624.KAA04719@mercury.texoma.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

- >  
> Hello to all ....  
> For those which you are seeking the FBB for Windows can go you to the  
> directory /tapr/software\_lib/upload and in case that the coordinator  
> already the may have put where it must be , found in /tapr/software\_lib/bbs.  
> The name of the file is WINFBB.ARJ. Attention..!!! This version is beta,  
> precisely the beta #52, and still has several problems.

I tried it out, and it seems to work OK for me.. I had to tinker around a bit ( still am ) but it does fly, and did an 'RLI X-ptrotocol forwarding session with a nearby MSYS BBS just fine this morning.

My setup:  
33 Mhz 486dx, 8 MB RAM.. DOS 6.22, QEMM, WFW ( Win 3.11 )  
networked to my WIN95 machine.

BPQ408a ( Win version ) WINFBB 5.15

The biggest problem I encountered was BPQ and Windows fighting over COM 2... Once I got that resolved, it worked fine.

If it works, don't fix it.

---

## 67. Re: [BBSSIG:2073] WINFBB NOW!!!!

From: "Bob Nielsen" <nielsen@primenet.com>  
Date: Sat, 16 Dec 1995 10:42:05 +0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512161742.KAA23493@usr5.primenet.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Josep M <coyote@lnst.es> wrote:

>  
>  
> Hello to all ....  
> For those which you are seeking the FBB for Windows can go you to the  
> directory /tapr/software\_lib/upload and in case that the coordinator  
> already the may have put where it must be , found in /tapr/software\_lib/bbs.  
> The name of the file is WINFBB.ARJ. Attention..!!! This version is beta,  
> precisely the beta #52, and still has several problems.

We generally have refrained from putting beta software in the TAPR library, but I will leave it in the UPLOAD directory for those who wish to ftp the file. It will NOT be put into the diskette version of the library and FBB5.15 will remain in /tapr/software\_lib/bbs, at least until the official release of the Windows version.

Bob Nielsen, W6SWE  
TAPR Software Librarian

-----  
Bob Nielsen                                   Internet:nielsen@primenet.com  
Tucson, AZ                                   AMPRnet: w6swe@w6swe.ampr.org  
AX.25: w6swe@wb7tts.az.usa.noam

---

## 68. W2IWI four-element Hierarchical Codes

From: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Sun, 17 Dec 1995 10:42:20 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951217095953.25095A-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

Over the last few months there have been Repeated Requests from UK BBS's Via Packet not to change from the " EU " designator to " EURO "

Some time back there was an article in the TAPR Newsletter PSR Fall 94 Issue # 56.. On Proposed Hierarchical Addressing..

Was this ever put into effect ??

I did try to contact those listed in the article but this drew a blank..

In our Amateur Magazine BREAK-IN Dec 95 Issue in the Digital Modes column this has appeared..

-----  
Hierarchical addressing

In early 1993 the satellite gateways and other Packet gateway stations adopted the W2IWI four-element codes for hierarchical addressing, and making them a standard in some parts of the world at least.

There appears to have been little discussion and dissemination of this information down here.

The new continental codes are as follows:

|       |                                             |
|-------|---------------------------------------------|
| .EURO | Europe                                      |
| .MEDR | Mediterranean                               |
| .INDI | Indian Ocean and sub-continent              |
| .MDLE | Middle East                                 |
| .SEAS | South East Asia                             |
| .ASIA | The Orient                                  |
| .NOAM | North America (including Canada and Mexico) |
| .CEAM | Central America                             |
| .CARB | Caribbean                                   |
| .SOAM | South America                               |
| .AUNZ | Australia/New Zealand                       |

.EPAC Eastern Pacific  
.NPAC Northern Pacific  
.SPAC Southern Pacific  
.WPAC Western Pacific  
.NAFR North Africa  
.SAFR South Africa  
.ANTR Antarctica

I would be interested to hear comments about these codes and their use in ZL.

The Article was by ZL2UCX Steve Davis  
E-Mail STEVE@zl2ucx.gen.nz

---

What I would like to know is,

Are these Continental Designators in use around the world or just in selected countries.. ?

What countries are using them.. ?

What is happening is some operators around the world are using them and then a few weeks later you see a rash of bulletins asking Please don't swap .EU with EURO..

This is done by the originator of a bulletin sending his/her H Route as xyz.abc.EURO and after 2 or 3 of these have passed via several BBS they pick it up in their WPs etc and send the updates on..  
It is not only the EU designator it is all I have only used the EURO as an example as this seems to be the hot issue at the moment with SYSOP Messages..

\*\*\*\*\*

Note

~~~~~

I am in no way suggesting that these be altered,adopted,dropped etc..

I feel it is about time that a standard is set and when you read articles that this and that have been proposed or adopted but know nothing of it one has to ask questions.....

Is there a SIG for SYSOPS ???

73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

## 69. Re: [BBSSIG:2076] W2IWI four-element Hierarchical Codes

From: Greg Jones <wd5ivd@tapr.org>  
Date: Sat, 16 Dec 1995 16:32:08 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512162232.QAA27013@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

This issue was discussed for about 9 months or more with the final adoption of the recommendation happening about 6 months after that. It was published in the DCC, in the PSR, and on here several times. I also believe that Barry or Dave sent out two or three messages to all @ world wide as a packet bulletin. So -- I think it got disseminated.

The recommendation is available on ftp.tapr.org in the SIG area under BBSSIG. Also on the web site.

You might also want to go back and look at the mail archives of this time last year -- since there were several hundred messages on the exchange.

Cheers - Greg

>

>

> Hi,

> Over the last few months there have been Repeated Requests from UK BBS's  
> Via Packet not to change from the " EU " designator to " EURO "

>

> Some time back there was an article in the TAPR Newsletter PSR Fall 94 Issue  
> # 56.. On Proposed Hierarchical Addressing..

>

> Was this ever put into effect ??

>

> I did try to contact those listed in the article but this drew a blank..  
>  
> In our Amateur Magazine BREAK-IN Dec 95 Issue in the Digital Modes column  
> this has appeared..  
>  
> -----  
> Hierarchical addressing  
>  
> In early 1993 the satellite gateways and other Packet gateway  
> stations adopted the W2IWI four-element codes for hierarchical  
> addressing, and making them a standard in some parts of the world at least.  
>  
> There appears to have been little discussion and dissemination of this  
> information down here.  
>  
> The new continental codes are as follows:  
> .EURO Europe  
> .MEDR Mediterranean  
> .INDI Indian Ocean and sub-continent  
> .MDLE Middle East  
> .SEAS South East Asia  
> .ASIA The Orient  
> .NOAM North America (including Canada and Mexico)  
> .CEAM Central America  
> .CARB Caribbean  
> .SOAM South America  
> .AUNZ Australia/New Zealand  
> .EPAC Eastern Pacific  
> .NPAC Northern Pacific  
> .SPAC Southern Pacific  
> .WPAC Western Pacific  
> .NAFR North Africa  
> .SAFR South Africa  
> .ANTR Antarctica  
>  
> I would be interested to hear comments about these codes and their use in  
> ZL.  
>  
> The Article was by ZL2UCX Steve Davis  
> E-Mail STEVE@zl2ucx.gen.nz  
>  
> -----  
>  
> What I would like to know is,  
>  
> Are these Continental Designators in use around the world or just in  
> selected countries.. ?  
>  
> What countries are using them.. ?  
>  
> What is happening is some operators around the world are using them and  
> then a few weeks later you see a rash of bulletins asking Please don't  
> swap .EU with EURO..  
>  
> This is done by the originator of a bulletin sending his/her H Route as  
> xyz.abc.EURO and after 2 or 3 of these have passed via several BBS they  
> pick it up in their WPs etc and send the updates on..  
> It is not only the EU designator it is all I have only used the EURO as  
> an example as this seems to be the hot issue at the moment with SYSOP  
> Messages..  
>  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> Note  
> ~~~~  
> I am in no way suggesting that these be altered,adopted,dropped etc..  
>  
> I feel it is about time that a standard is set and when you read articles  
> that this and that have been proposed or adopted but know nothing of it  
> one has to ask questions.....  
>  
> Is there a SIG for SYSOPS ???  
>  
> 73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
> zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz  
>  
>  
>

## 70. Re: [BBSSIG:2075] Re: WINFBB NOW!!!!

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sat, 16 Dec 1995 18:15:17 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512170115.SAA20708@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 11:55 AM 12/16/95 -0600, you wrote:

>Josep M <coyote@lnst.es> wrote:

>

>>

>>

>We generally have refrained from putting beta software in the TAPR  
>library, but I will leave it in the UPLOAD directory for those who  
>wish to ftp the file. It will NOT be put into the diskette version  
>of the library and FBB5.15 will remain in /tapr/software\_lib/bbs, at  
>least until the official release of the Windows version.

>

>

Bob let a few of test this version out. If it runs well and is what  
it should be we will let you know. If yes then put it in the library, if no,  
then delete it when you usually do. I will u/l it to Brian's ftp.ucsd.edu  
with the proper note and this will make it available for us guys who d/l  
stuff at 2am wearing green eyeshades.

After all what is life all about?

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 71. Re: [BBSSIG:2076] W2IWI four-element Hierarchical Codes

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sat, 16 Dec 1995 21:03:03 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512170303.VAA01193@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Phillip,

You'll be sorry you asked this question ! hihi

There was a long and occasionally nasty debate about the use of  
NA vs. NOAM. In order not to offend either side, I will not attempt  
to summarize the arguments.

Suffice it to say that there is not unanimity on this issue. A recommendation  
was made and is followed in some areas by some BBS.

The debate was so focussed on NA/NOAM that the EU/EURO (and other continents)  
were not discussed adequately. Also, the majority of the discussion  
appears to have taken place in the US with little commentary from  
European stations.

73 Barry

Phillip Conza wrote:

>

>

> Hi,

> Over the last few months there have been Repeated Requests from UK BBS's  
> Via Packet not to change from the " EU " designator to " EURO "

>

> Some time back there was an article in the TAPR Newsletter PSR Fall 94 Issue  
> # 56.. On Proposed Hierarchical Addressing..

>

> Was this ever put into effect ??

>

> I did try to contact those listed in the article but this drew a blank..

---

## 72. Re: [BBSSIG:2078] Re: WINFBB NOW!!!!

From: "Bob Nielsen" <nielsen@primenet.com>  
Date: Sun, 17 Dec 1995 06:51:06 +0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512171351.GAA09838@usr1.primenet.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

"Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu> wrote:





TAPR I do respect as an authority and have changed my H\$ to reflect what they suggested, I really only see a handfull of others that have done so. Maybe the ARRL can.....NAW!

73 de Rod (k2adj@k2adj.#snj.nj.usa.noam)

---

## 75. Re: [BBSSIG:2080] Re: WINFBB NOW!!!!

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 17 Dec 1995 10:05:56 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512171705.KAA15217@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 08:12 AM 12/17/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>"Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu> wrote:  
>  
>> At 11:55 AM 12/16/95 -0600, you wrote:  
>> >Josep M <coyote@inst.es> wrote:  
>> >

Some Deleted....

>Sorry, guys, but I have been informed that Jean Paul became very  
>upset when an earlier beta version got widely distributed and removed  
>the person who distributed it from the beta test program. I will  
>remove it from the upload directory today! Please do not distribute  
>it further.  
>

OK Bob. I won't send it further. As it turns out I can't use a windows program anyway; I must load the BPQ first and this can be done only using another DOS program with a Batch file turning them both on in sequence.

Also there is very scant documentation with the file uploaded. The instwfbb.exe runs like a window program under win95. But it is not much of an improvement over the DOS version instafbb.com. All the other files appear to be an update to FBB version 5.15c which I am running now.

So it's my opinion from my point of view the Windows FBB has no attraction.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 76. Re: [BBSSIG:2082] NA/NOAM and EU/EURO

From: Greg Jones <wd5ivd@tapr.org>  
Date: Sun, 17 Dec 1995 12:03:53 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512171803.MAA05680@sys1.tapr.org>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>  
> Someone said that several years ago after much discussion that TAPR came  
> out with a listing of what would be used, I never saw that bulletin  
> although I am a bulletin distributor handling now about 300 bulletins a day.  
>  
> TAPR I do respect as an authority and have changed my H\$ to reflect what  
> they suggested, I really only see a handfull of others that have done so.  
> Maybe the ARRL can.....NAW!  
>

I am glad you have changed over to the recommendation.

Let me put this in a little more detail.

The BBS SIG after much discussion formulated a recommendation that was then discussed and eventually adopted by TAPR. Is this a standard. No. It is only a recommendation in order to help with inter-connectivity issues on several levels.

Does this mean that anyone has to use it ? No again. But I have seen many of the BBSs in the area I am in using the recommendation and all indication seem to be that many of the BBS in the US have adopted it. Am I wrong ? Is it important ?

I would hate to see this discussion yet hashed out again on this channel. There are more noteworthy issues to be discussed. Maybe someone can indicate which months of the archives should be examined. Hopefully the first of the year I'll have the entire TAPR mail archives searchable via the

Web, but for now I have dissertation proposal work to do.

If the European BBS operators do not wish to adopt this -- fine. I believe the BBS SIG, faced with issues regarding connectivity debated the issue, attempted to get as much input as necessary via several means and TAPR then adopted it. Again this happened over at least a 9 to 12 month period from the very beginning.

This does also not mean that the document is fixed in stone. Things can change. It is all up to the BBS SIG to make recommendations for those changes. I am sure Barry can comment in detail on this.

Cheers - Greg, WD5IVD

---

## 77. SUB info

From: Barry Buelow WA0RJT <barry@ia.net>  
Date: Sun, 17 Dec 1995 12:44:25 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512171844.MAA06897@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Sid,

Give this a try.

Barry

Here is the short version of how to subscribe:

Send an email msg to: listserv@tapr.org  
in the body of the msg: subscribe bbssig NAME  
insert your name for NAME

### ListProcessor 6.0

Here is a brief description of the set of requests recognized by ListProcessor. Everything appearing in [] below is optional; everything appearing in <> is mandatory; all arguments are case insensitive. The vertical bar ("|") is used as a logical OR operator between the arguments. Requests may be abbreviated, but you must specify at least the first three characters.

Keep in mind that when referring to a <list>, that list may be of two kinds: local or remote, unless otherwise noted. When referring to a local list, your request will be immediately processed; when referring to a remote list (a list served by another ListProcessor which this system knows about), your request will be appropriately forwarded. Issue a 'lists' request to get a listing of all local and known remote lists to this ListProcessor.

Recognized requests are:

help [topic]

-----

Without arguments, this file. Otherwise get specific information on the selected topic. Topics may also refer to requests. To learn more about this system issue a 'help listproc' request. To get a listing of all available topics, generate an error message by sending a bogus request like 'help me'.

subscribe <list> <your name>

-----

The only way to subscribe to a list.

unsubscribe <list>

signoff <list>

-----

Two ways of removing yourself from the specified list.

lists

-----

Get a list of all local mailing lists that are served by this server, as well as of all known remote lists.

73 Barry WA0RJT

---

## 78. Re: [BBSSIG:2084] Re: NA/NOAM and EU/EURO

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Sun, 17 Dec 1995 16:19:16 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512172319.QAA27642@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

The reason to change from continent designators of 2 letters to those having 4 letters is based on the rare chance that a packet BBS message would get loose on the Internet. The use of NA will, I am told, cause the message to be sent to Nambia. This is a problem that others find to be very serious. It seems that using NOAM will keep this from happening.

Another reason to change is because a person you admire asks that you do so. W0RLI asked me to do it and I have. Another reason is that it is very, very simple to do this. With FBB you just run instafbb and replace NA with NOAM and forget it.

So as I and everyone else has done, it makes NO difference which you choose to use, my BBS will accept and forward any and all your messages.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 79. RE: Hierarchical Addressing.

From: Phillip Conza <z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Mon, 18 Dec 1995 12:37:15 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951218122439.28126B-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

To those that have sent replies...THANKYOU..

I don't want to go back over ground that has been turned etc..

But some months back 4 or 5, I sent out as a WW Bulletin the Article from PSR # 56 on this Topic, I had several replies somewhere negative to any change and some that have been around alot longer than me Never laid eyes on it or knew that there was a discussion etc..

Thanks again to all that replied..

73 Phillip

---

## 80. Re: [BBSSIG:2086] Re: NA/NOAM and EU/EURO

From: Ben Sager <bsager@interserf.net>  
Date: Mon, 18 Dec 1995 07:02:59 -0500  
To: k5di@acca.nmsu.edu  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org, budafmars@aol.com  
Message-ID: <199512181207.HAA27381@ns.interserf.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Karl,

This question has nothing to do with the previous subject but I think you will know if the following is true. A friend of mine who I forward to and uses FBB swears that while it is forwarding or being forwarded to that even though it will allow other connects... It will not allow any other forwarding to take place, by "to take place", I mean it allows me or other stations to connect.....but then we just sit there exchanging periodic RR until I timeout or the other he is connected to finishes.. I use MSYS but the something happens to other stations in our forwarding group, some use the new FBB too..... Any comments??? He swears it is setup right!

Regards  
Ben

KC4ASF.VA

At 05:54 PM 12/17/95 -0600, you wrote:

```

>
> The reason to change from continent designators of 2 letters to
>those having 4 letters is based on the rare chance that a packet BBS message
>would get loose on the Internet. The use of NA will, I am told, cause the
>message to be sent to Nambia. This is a problem that others find to be very
>serious. It seems that using NOAM will keep this from happening.
>
> Another reason to change is because a person you admire asks that
>you do so. W0RLI asked me to do it and I have. Another reason is that it is
>very, very simple to do this. With FBB you just run instafbb and replace NA
>with NOAM and forget it.
>
> So as I and everyone else has done, it makes NO difference which you
>choose to use, my BBS will accept and forward any and all your messages.
>
>Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->
>
>
>

```

## 81. NOAM and NA some more

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Mon, 18 Dec 1995 15:09:22 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512182209.PAA08687@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I was looking at some information that came in my Packet BBS having  
to do with what the SatCom guys will accept. They are very sure this is what  
MUST appear for proper forwarding:

| Call                 | SysOp  | @ BBS                    | Service Area                                  |
|----------------------|--------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>NORTH AMERICA</b> |        |                          |                                               |
| W9HGI                | W9HGI  | @ W9HGI.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA | UT, ID, NV, AZ, Part of CA                    |
| KL7GNG               | KL7GNG | @ KL7GNG.#NAK.AK.USA.NA  | AK, VY1                                       |
| W0SL                 | W0SL   | @ W0SL.MO.USA.NA         | KS, MO, IA, CO, AR, WY, NE<br>( Part of IL )  |
| NU9H                 | NU9H   | @ NU9H.#NWIN.IN.USA.NA   | IN, MI, KY, WI, VE3<br>( Chicago area of IL ) |
| NR3U                 | NR3U   | @ NR3U.PA.USA.NA         | PA, NJ, OH, MD, VA, WV, DC, NY<br>DE          |
| WB2VPH               | WB2VPH | @ WB2VPH.#WNY.NY.USA.NA  | MA, ME, VT, RI, NH, CT,<br>V01,2 VE1,2 VE9    |
| WB5EKW               | WB5EKW | @ WB5EKW.#WTX.TX.USA.NA  | TX, NM, OK                                    |
| KG4TM                | KG4TM  | @ KG4TM.CUB.CARB.NA      | Guantanamo Bay, Caribbean area                |
| AH6LX                | AH6LX  | @ AH6LX.HI.USA.OC        | US Possessions Pacific Area                   |
| N8DEU                | N8DEU  | @ N8DEU.#HSV.AL.USA.NA   | AL, LA, MS, GA, TN, NC, SC                    |
| N7SBP                | KB7CNN | @ N7SBP.#WWA.WA.USA.NA   | WA, OR, VE7,8                                 |
| WH6AMX               | WH6AMX | @ WH6AMX.FL.USA.NA       | FL, Central America                           |
| XF3R                 | XF3R   | @ XF3R.#CUN.QR.MEX.NA    | Mexico                                        |
| VE4SET               | VE4SET | @ VE4SET.#WPG.MB.CAN.NA  | SD, ND, MN, MT, VE4,5,6                       |

end of part I of II

OK so they are not NOAM boosters. But look at the rest of the world!

part II of II SatGate list continued...  
EUROPE

|        |        |                       |                                                               |
|--------|--------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| ON4KVI | ON4KVI | @ ON4KVI.LU.BEL.EU    | Belgium, Luxemburg, Germany,<br>Austria, Netherlands, Denmark |
| EI6EH  | EI6EH  | @ EI6EH.#KELLS.IRL.EU | Ireland, (Part of UK )                                        |
| EA3AKS | EA3AKS | @ EA3AKS.EAB.ESP.EU   | Spain, Portugal                                               |
| OH6SAT | OH6KG  | @ OH6RBI.FIN.EU       | Finland, Sweden, Norway                                       |
| GB7LAN | GB7ZJ  | @ GB7LAN.#16.GBR.EU   | ( Most of UK )                                                |
| SV8RV  | SV8RV  | @ SV8RV.GRC.EU        | Eastern Europe, Russia, Turkey                                |
| F6CDD  | F6CDD  | @ F6CDD.FMLR.FRA.EU   | Ukraine, Most of Middle East                                  |
| TF3LJ  | TF3LJ  | @ TF3LJ.ISL.EU        | France, Italy, Switzerland,<br>Senegal, Ivory coast, Gabon    |
|        |        |                       | Iceland                                                       |

## OCEANIA

|        |        |                         |                               |
|--------|--------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ZL2WA  | ZL2TP0 | @ ZL2TP0.#60.NZL.OC     | New Zealand                   |
| VK2XGJ | VK2XGJ | @ VK2XGJ.NSW.AUS.OC     | VK1,2 South Pacific           |
| VK4BBS | VK4BBS | @ VK4BBS.BNE.QLD.AUS.OC | VK3,4,7,9                     |
| VK5SPG | VK5ZK  | @ VK5ZK.#ADL.#SA.AUS.OC | VK5,6,8                       |
| W1YRM  | KH2D   | @ KH2D.GUAM.USA.OC      | Guam, Philippines, Hong Kong  |
|        |        |                         | JNET3 Japan, Marshall Islands |

## MIDDLE EAST

|       |       |                      |                                   |
|-------|-------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| A45ZO | A45ZO | @ A45ZO.MCT.OMN.MDLE | Oman, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh |
|       |       |                      | Sri Lanka, Israel                 |

## FAR EAST

|        |        |                       |                            |
|--------|--------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| JA6FTL | JA6FTL | @ JA6FTL.JNET6.JPN.AS | Taiwan, Indonesia, Korea   |
|        |        |                       | Singapore, China, Thailand |
|        |        |                       | Macao, JNET6R Japan        |
|        |        |                       | Malaysia                   |

|        |        |                          |                           |
|--------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| JA0BCY | JA0BCY | @ JA0BCY.08.JNET0.JPN.AS | Mainland Japan, not JNET3 |
|--------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------|

## AFRICA

|        |        |                     |                         |
|--------|--------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| ZS1ABM | ZS1ABM | @ ZS0STB.WCP.ZAF.AF | South Africa, Zimbabwe, |
|        |        |                     | Namibia, Swaziland,     |
|        |        |                     | Mauritius, Rwanda       |
|        |        |                     | Mozambique, Kenya       |

## SOUTH AMERICA

|        |        |                        |                            |
|--------|--------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| PY2GN  | PY2GN  | @ PY2GN.SP.BRA.SA      | part of Brazil             |
| PU5BGE | PU5BGE | @ PU5BGE.#SC.BRA.SA    | part of Brazil             |
| CX5AE  | CX5AE  | @ CX5AE.MVD.URY.SA     | Uruguay                    |
| LU8DYF | LU8DYF | @ LU8DYF.OLIVOS.ARG.SA | South America              |
|        |        |                        | ( except Brazil, Uruguay ) |

All SatGate messages from the mailing list server will go to  
the NR3U Mid-Atlantic SATGATE.  
73 Alan N2bqf

end of part II of II

As is obvious, the SatCom hams are oblivious of any NA or EU  
problems. And if you write MAIL that goes by this method you better conform  
with what they expect...

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 82. Re: [BBSSIG:2089] NOAM and NA some more

From: garlic@garlic.com  
Date: Mon, 18 Dec 1995 15:48:12 -0800  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <30D5FDBC.6886@garlic.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

This list is crap.... I set up the W9HGI BBS and everything  
that is sent uses the 4-letter designator. In addition, we have  
REPEATED told people not to send UT and ID traffic here.

Roy, AA4RE

Karl F. Larsen wrote:

>  
> I was looking at some information that came in my Packet BBS having  
> to do with what the SatCom guys will accept. They are very sure this is what  
> MUST appear for proper forwarding:  
>  
> Call SysOp @ BBS Service Area  
>  
>  
> NORTH AMERICA  
>  
> W9HGI W9HGI @ W9HGI.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA UT, ID, NV, AZ, Part of CA

---

## 83. Re: [BBSSIG:2090] Re: NOAM and NA some more

From: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Tue, 19 Dec 1995 14:44:46 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Cc: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951219143930.793A-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Roy,

I don't want to add to this but as I sort of started it, and you did reply to my original message, but didn't include any remarks can you as one of the Original people that looked into the H address proposal clear it up..

What are the standard Excepted Designators that should be used ????

On Mon, 18 Dec 1995 garlic@garlic.com wrote:

> This list is crap.... I set up the W9HGI BBS and everything  
> that is sent uses the 4-letter designator. In addition, we have  
> REPEATED told people not to send UT and ID traffic here.  
>  
> Roy, AA4RE  
>  
> Karl F. Larsen wrote:  
> >  
> > I was looking at some information that came in my Packet BBS having  
> > to do with what the SatCom guys will accept. They are very sure this is what  
> > MUST appear for proper forwarding:  
> >  
> > Call SysOp @ BBS Service Area  
> >  
> > \_\_\_\_\_  
> >  
> > NORTH AMERICA  
> >  
> > W9HGI W9HGI @ W9HGI.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA UT, ID, NV, AZ, Part of CA  
>  
73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

## 84. Re: [BBSSIG:2090] Re: NOAM and NA some more

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 19 Dec 1995 01:28:24 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512190828.BAA27608@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

At 05:54 PM 12/18/95 -0600, you wrote:

>This list is crap.... I set up the W9HGI BBS and everything  
>that is sent uses the 4-letter designator. In addition, we have  
>REPEATED told people not to send UT and ID traffic here.  
>  
>Roy, AA4RE  
>

First off Roy this is not crap. This is what is being sent around the country telling SysOp's what they are expected to do so their mail gets delivered. Since you are close to the problem why don't you send out a corrected list so the SysOp's know what the real requirements are.

If it doesn't matter what continent designator is used say so. If your bouncing mail with NA say so. And if you don't want UT and ID traffic, tell the people WHERE to send it. Is there a closer SatCom station? I know that Salt Lake City is close to southern Idaho. If you can't get those states send the mail to me. I have a fragile link with Utah via Farmington, NM into UT.

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 85. FBB Observations

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Date: Tue, 19 Dec 1995 08:49:27 -0700  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512191549.IAA06245@acca.nmsu.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Every Christmas for several years Remi Houten F6CNB near Houston TX goes home to France for the Holliday period. Nothing unusual about this except that Remi does a great deal for the Packet BBS hobby.

Many BBS SysOps FTP via the internet and get all the bulletins from

Remi's JNOS Internet server every day. Remi forwards to many BBS via the Internet Gateway System. The system Remi has put together works just great...while he is there to tweek and fix the every day problems that come up.

But when Remi leaves the whole thing is on automatic. The first to crash is the JNOS. It gets so much use it needs to be reset every couple of days. But when Remi is gone it doesn't happen and this source of bulletins goes away.

FBB is also on automatic but FBB doesn't seem to CRASH! It gets cranky late in the day like 11 pm or so. I have connected and got just a hello and nothing else until timeout. But at 2 am FBB drops out to a Batch file and does some cleanup and file deletions and wp server stuff, and when done it RELOADS the software!

I think this reload of the software every day is the secret to FBB's ability to run for weeks without intervention. It seems to fix what goes wrong with the server and the restart is the reason it comes up normal after being bad.

To Brian Lantz I say yes, Remi should set up Linux on one of his 4 computers and run TNOS under it. That should be more reliable in automatic. Being a DOS guy, my idea is to use the APPEL.BAT file of FBB to call a file I have called coldboot.com that does what the name implies; it drops any computer to bios and if you set up to recover from a power loss, it will all come back up like a new day.

Then you need to set up scandisk to fix any problems as the computer turns on. This is possible. And why not defrag while your at it?

Merry Christmas to You All,

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

---

## 86. Re: [BBSSIG:2092] Re: NOAM and NA some more

From: garlic@garlic.com  
Date: Tue, 19 Dec 1995 09:16:14 -0800  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <30D6F35E.133C@garlic.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

I think you missed the points I was trying to make. The SATGATE list was posted here so that someone could use it to make decisions. I am able to state that

- 1) The list is inaccurate with respect to W9HGI
- 2) The AMSAT gateway coordinator was given the correct info years ago

Since the SATGATE list has known errors which the authors decline to correct, I will leave it up to everyone to make their own determination as to the quality of the information in the list.

Roy

Karl F. Larsen wrote:

>

> At 05:54 PM 12/18/95 -0600, you wrote:

> >This list is crap.... I set up the W9HGI BBS and everything

> >that is sent uses the 4-letter designator. In addition, we have

> >REPEATED told people not to send UT and ID traffic here.

> >

> >Roy, AA4RE

> >

> First off Roy this is not crap. This is what is being sent around  
> the country telling SysOp's what they are expected to do so their mail gets  
> delivered. Since you are close to the problem why don't you send out a  
> corrected list so the SysOp's know what the real requirements are.

>

> If it doesn't matter what continent designator is used say so. If  
> your bouncing mail with NA say so. And if you don't want UT and ID traffic,  
> tell the people WHERE to send it. Is there a closer SatCom station? I know  
> that Salt Lake City is close to southern Idaho. If you can't get those  
> states send the mail to me. I have a fragile link with Utah via Farmington,  
> NM into UT.

>

> Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->



## 87. Re: W2IWI four-element Hierarchical Codes

From: Guido Tedeschi <guidoted@mbx.vol.it>  
Date: Wed, 20 Dec 1995 00:25:17 +~100  
To: "'TAPR BBSSIG'" <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <01BACE71.A9A06F40@tibs20.vol.it>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi guys, some years ago, when W3IWI proposed the four element Hierarchical Codes, we and other european BBS adopted the EURO instead of EU.

After about two years, when our BBS was almost the only european using it, we switched back to EU with sadness.....

We will be happy to use again the EURO, so make it be a STRONG recommendation also from ARRL !

Let me say that You, american Sysops, are lucky to have only these problems : here in Italy is a hard life with no regulation at all and any ham can put on air his FBB with mountaintop VHF node to have a broad coverage for his five local users.... on the same frequency of another old BBS (we have only 8 channels spaced 25KHz on VHF)

It's hard to believe but there is almost no network in Italy, only hundreds of BBS which forwards with more BBS as possible (more BBS to forward.... better BBS and very big gun sysop....)

Excuse me for my bad english and for my vent

73's from Guido - IK2BCP (sysop of I2N05 BBS and some nodes)

---

## 88. Re: [BBSSIG:2095] Re: W2IWI four-element Hierarchical Codes

From: barry@ia.net (barry)  
Date: Tue, 19 Dec 1995 22:31:42 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512200435.WAA16334@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Guido,

I'm afraid you've hit a weakness in our packet system. We aren't particularly well organized and "standards" and "recommendations" aren't followed as strongly as they might be.

Over time, I hope that we can find more common ground and recognize the benefits of cooperation.

And, your English is fine.

73 Barry

---

## 89. Re: [BBSSIG:2094] Re: NOAM and NA some more

From: barry@ia.net (barry)  
Date: Tue, 19 Dec 1995 22:31:37 -0600  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512200435.WAA16309@zeus.ia.net>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>Karl F. Larsen wrote:

>>

>> >

>> First off Roy this is not crap. This is what is being sent around

>> the country telling SysOp's what they are expected to do so their mail gets

Karl,

I wouldn't judge the quality of this information just because it's being sent around.

Is there someone on this list who is a Sat Gateway? We need a first person authoritative answer, not multiple personal opinions.

-----

>I think you missed the points I was trying to make. The SATGATE  
>list was posted here so that someone could use it to make decisions.

>I am able to state that

> 1) The list is inaccurate with respect to W9HGI

> 2) The AMSAT gateway coordinator was given the correct info

> years ago

>

>Roy

>

Showing my ignorance here, but who is the SATGATE coordinator now days?

If you (all) would like, I'll contact him directly and see what the we can do for a definitive answer, even if its wrong.

## 90. rewrite

```

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@acca.nmsu.edu>
Date: Wed, 20 Dec 1995 06:02:48 -0700
To: bbssig@tapr.org
Message-ID: <199512201302.GAA02897@acca.nmsu.edu>
Rendered body type: text/plain

>
>Date: Mon, 18 Dec 95 21:42:02 EST
>From: n8pjn@Hamgate.Flint.Umich.Edu
>To: nos-bbs@hydra.carleton.ca
>Subject: HELP (autoforwarding to and from KAM PBBS)
>Message-ID: <5784@Hamgate.Flint.Umich.Edu>
>
>Hi guys! got another question.... I have a pbbs user who want to auto-
>forward to and from me..... here are my observations....
>
>#1 - if I set his call up as a bbs in the ftpusers file I can Rx from
> him OK and it will autoforward just fine....
>
>#2 - if he is se up as a regular user he messages are rx'd OK but they
> do not forward.. When I do a (SMTP LIST) it is there but locked...
> when I goto [spool/mqueue] directory the message is there OK..
> I delete the *.LCK files then do a (SMTP KICK) {to my knowlege
> this is supposed to start the forwarding process} the message
> just locks again... The to address is (n8pjn@n8pjn) amd I
> placed (n8pjn n8pjn) & (n8pjn@n8pjn n8pjn) in the alias file
> with no sucseess...
>
> This is where the file rewrite comes in. I didn't see you mention
> this file so it is possible you don't have one. If you don't, shame on you...:)

>#3 - I have had no luck at all autoforwarding to his pbbs over the air..
>
>any sugesstions or questions will be appreciated at :
> N8PJN @ Hamgate.Flint.Umich.Edu

```

In that rewrite file you will have a line that looks like:

```
*@n8pjn n8pjn
```

which puts anything@n8pjn into a file n8pjn.txt in the /mail directory....neat

Karl F. Larsen ----- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu ----->

## 91. Systems?

```

From: Travis W Burton - KB5ILY <tburton@wolfdan.swsc.k12.ar.us>
Date: Wed, 20 Dec 1995 22:21:51 -0600 (CST)
To: Tapr BBS Sig <bbssig@tapr.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951220220940.8996C-100000@wolfdan.swsc.k12.ar.us>
Rendered body type: text/plain

```

I am thinking about setting-up a Linux based system which may someday replace my dos based Msys. I don't have any problem with Msys, but I would like to use an OS that is a little more multi-tasking than Dos. What I would like to know is: 1 What are the differences between them? 2 Are new users added automaticly? Thanks.

```

73 De Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY / Prescott AR 71857-2505
Assistant Admistrator, Wolf Den Project
Amateur Packet Radio: KB5ILY @ KB5ILY.SWAR.AR.USA.NOAM
Internet: tburton@wolfdan.swsc.k12.ar.us
WWW: http://wolfdan.swsc.k12.ar.us/~tburton/
GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES of AMERICA
Seasons Greetings from my family to yours.

```

## 92. Re: [BBSSIG:2099] Systems?

```

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>
Date: Thu, 21 Dec 1995 09:00:37 -0500 (EST)

```

To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951221085312.27795D-100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Wed, 20 Dec 1995, Travis W Burton - KB5ILY wrote:

> I am thinking about setting-up a Linux based system which may  
> someday replace my dos based Msys. I don't have any problem with  
> Msys, but I would like to use an OS that is a little more  
> multi-tasking than Dos. What I would like to know is: 1 What are the  
> differences between them? 2 Are new users added automatically? Thanks.

Well, your choices on Linux for PBBS software are fewer than on DOS. Most are xNOS variants, but there are some non-NOS PBBS's floating around.

A good start for you would be the HAM-HOWTO for Linux. You can find it on sunsite.unc.edu in /pub/Linux/docs/HOWTO.

While most are running TNOS, there are many on Wampes, LBBS and others...

As for differences between a DOS-based PBBS and a Linux-based PBBS, none, necessarily. The TNOS version for DOS and the TNOS version for Linux are identical to the end-user, and nearly identical to the SYSOP.

While most PBBSs are similar to the user, the big differences come from the setup/configuration/maintenance for the SYSOP. These vary widely on DOS, as they do on any OS.

Once they are configured, they seem fairly similar to the user.

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

### 93. WINFBB NOW!!!!

From: ferracci@imaginet.fr (Laurent Ferracci - F1JKJ)  
Date: Thu, 21 Dec 1995 18:13:57 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <30d915c0.1741452@mail.imagnet.fr>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

On Fri, 15 Dec 1995 15:21:36 -0600 (CST), you wrote:

> For those which you are seeking the FBB for Windows can go you to the  
>directory /tapr/software\_lib/upload and in case that the coordinator  
>already the may have put where it must be , found in /tapr/software\_lib/bbs.  
>The name of the file is WINFBB.ARJ. Attention..!!! This version is beta,  
>precisely the beta #52, and still has several problems.

Hi,

I have tried to download this beta version but didn't found it in the directories you mentionned...

Would it be possible that you send it to me directly (on a personal FTP area, as an UUencoded mail, or in DCC chat ?)

Thanks a lot !

```
-- +-----+-----+
-- | From Laurent FERRACCI, F1JKJ | > ferracci@imaginet.fr < |
-- | Montpellier, FRANCE | http://www.imagnet.fr/~ferracci |
-- +-----+-----+
--
-- [PGP key on public-key servers]
```

---

### 94. Re: [BBSSIG:2101] WINFBB NOW!!!!

From: mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us (Gary McDuffie, Sr.)  
Date: Fri, 22 Dec 1995 00:50:57 GMT  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <30d9f329.3605771@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
> I have tried to download this beta version but didn't found it in the
> directories you mentionned...

> Would it be possible that you send it to me directly (on a personal
> FTP area, as an UUencoded mail, or in DCC chat ?)
```

In short, if you are not a beta tester, why should you have it?

mcduffie@hannibal.wncc.cc.ne.us

From: pipe2@eononline.com  
Date: Fri, 22 Dec 95 18:41 EST  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <m0tTH5n-000APfC@eononline.eonline.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

My experience with Linux leads me to tell all that it LOVES RAM! You can run it on 4 MBs, but you will be MUCH better off with 8+ megs. 16 Megs makes an excellent system. You need a hard drive of at least about 120 megs to run a nice system with all the features, but it will fit on a 40 meg HD (I have tried this and don't recommend it). You will be best off with a 486DX of some sort so that you can take advantage of the 486-specific optimizations in Linux. a 386 will run it fine (my 24hr box is a 386DX-25 and my under-construction box is a 386DX-40). DO NOT use a 386sx!!! They run Linux \*terribly\*. Pretty much Linux will run well on any system that can run MS Windows well.

At 10:24 PM 12/20/95 -0600, you wrote:

```
>I am thinking about setting-up a Linux based system which may
>someday replace my dos based Msys. I don't have any problem with
>Msys, but I would like to use an OS that is a little more
>multi-tasking than Dos. What I would like to know is: 1 What are the
>differences between them? 2 Are new users added automatically? Thanks.
```

```
>
> 73 De Travis W. Burton, KB5ILY / Prescott AR 71857-2505
> Assistant Administrator, Wolf Den Project
> Amateur Packet Radio: KB5ILY @ KB5ILY.SWAR.AR.USA.NOAM
> Internet: tburton@wolfden.swsc.k12.ar.us
> WWW: http://wolfden.swsc.k12.ar.us/~tburton/
> GOD BLESS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
> Seasons Greetings from my family to yours.
>
>
```

From: Jeffrey Austen <JRA1854@tntech.edu>  
Date: Fri, 22 Dec 1995 21:20:25 -0600 (CST)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <01HZ4EMDG64Y9FMZHM@tntech.edu>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

```
> My experieence with Linux leads me to tell all that it LOVES RAM! You can
> run it on 4 MBs. but you will be MUCH better off with 8+ megs. 16 Megs makes
```

Jeff, K9ja  
+--+  
Jeffrey Austen | Tennessee Technological University  
jra1854@ntech.edu | Box 5004  
(615) 372-3485 | Cookeville Tennessee 38505 U.S.A.

Phil Maley VK6AD                      Priv Email: pmaley@ozemail.com.au  
Phone (h): 61 9 354 4078    (b): 336 3996    (mobile): 61 9 (0)15 198 721  
Sysop VK6WFH Packet BBS          Business web page www.wt.com.au/~wotech

---

With your current lash-up you have 3 tnc's that cannot talk between each other. For your purposes what you have may work just fine. But what if you wanted your remote setup to be a user switch? If a user connects now he can go to the bbs and that's about it. If you have gateway enabled he can go out another port, after checking into the bbs.

BPQ is a TSR. It is a very fine netrom switch. FBB connects to the application side directly. You write 3 port calls in bpqcfg.txt and now all 3 tnc's have the same callsign and alias. A user can login from any of the 3 ports and go out any of the 2 others, or to the bbs.

Here I have 3 ports. 2 are 1200 baud for the users to input the network. 1 port is 9600 baud and it carries lots of traffic fast. Users at 1200 baud could never use 9600 baud connections without either a node stack or BPQ. It is hard to interface a bbs to a node stack...

With BPQ and it's many configurations is simply the best way to connect 2 or more tnc's together and to a bbs or NOS or both...

>  
>On another subject, since our PK232 is capable of pactor, I have often  
>wondered if we could configure it to forward with other pactor MBOs instead  
>of packet. This would probably improve our HF forwarding efficiency greatly.  
>If anyone has looked into this idea I'd appreciate your thoughts.

Phil I do not now do any HF forwarding so I'm an expert. Pactor seems to work fine but why is it better than packet with small packets? You can make your packets as small as the "new" modes, and it should work as well.

>  
>73  
>Phil Maley, vk6ad  
>Western Australian Amateur Digital Communications Association  
-----  
> Phil Maley VK6AD Priv Email: pmaley@ozemail.com.au  
> Phone (h): 61 9 354 4078 (b): 336 3996 (mobile): 61 9 (0)15 198 721  
> Sysop VK6WFH Packet BBS Business web page www.wt.com.au/~wotech  
-----  
>  
>

I have written a paper on BPQ. If you have the editor WORD version 2.0 or later it can be read. It will make configuration of your BPQ easier if you plan to try it.

Karl F. Larsen ---- k5di@acca.nmsu.edu --- <http://rever.nmsu.edu/~k5di/> -->

---

## 99. 4-character designators and TAPR....

From: "Brian A. Lantz" <brian@lantz.com>  
Date: Thu, 28 Dec 1995 21:04:10 -0500 (EST)  
To: TAPR BBSSIG Mailing List <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951228205438.9124C-100000@lantz.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

[This is not MEANT as a TAPR flame. Just a reality check...]

I'm sure that more than just Hank and I are aware of the fueling debate on packet to sysop@ww over continent designators.

I am SHOCKED, though, that TAPR could let Hank take the heat for this!

I am also SHOCKED, that \*MANY\* have asked questions like "who SAID TAPR was involved". I'm not shocked that some SYSOPs might ask this, I'M SHOCKED that NO ONE from TAPR has jumped in there to set the record straight!

It would SEEM to the uninformed like Hank \*WAS\* doing as he has been accused of; lying about TAPR having ANY part in the issue.

Doesn't anyone from the TAPR leadership read packet mail? If not, TAPR \*REALLY\* has a deep rooted problem....

Doesn't anyone from the TAPR leadership feel the need to set the record straight, or are they content with allowing Hank to bear the heat?

If TAPR wishes to be regarded as an International group (which many are

denying in that thread), they need to act responsibly in relation to their actions.

Some in that thread have basically said, "\*IF\* TAPR DID back this, that would be sufficient for me", but of course, with TAPR's 'radio silence', they are left to believe that TAPR DOESN'T support the proposal.

I know that Hank has received far worse flames (since I've sent him worse ;-), but it is not HIS place to describe TAPR's position.

If TAPR is NOT involved in the Packet Store-and-forward 'Network', then what DOES the 'PR' in TAPR mean?!?!?!?

-----  
Brian A. Lantz      <http://www.lantz.com>      [brian@lantz.com](mailto:brian@lantz.com)

```
REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:
 while (memory_available) {
 eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);
 if (feel_like_it)
 make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);
 gates_bank_balance++;
 }
```

---

## 100. ICOM 38a and 9600 baud

From: Mike Steiner <[michaels@waterw.com](mailto:michaels@waterw.com)>  
Date: Fri, 29 Dec 1995 08:49:58 -0800  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <30E41C36.547E@waterw.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

We're looking to upgrade our network in Southern New Jersey from a 2400 backbone to 9600 or possibly 19200. One approach would be to use our 220 equipment and modify it for the higher rates.

Has anyone successfully modified a IC 38A for 9600 or 19200? If so we would have great interest with your results since this would save us big bucks.

TNX 73,  
Mike Steiner  
WM2F@WM2F.SNJ.NJ.USA.NA  
MICHAELS@WATERW.COM

---

## 101. INFO 9600 AND 19200 BACKBONE

From: Mike Steiner <[michaels@waterw.com](mailto:michaels@waterw.com)>  
Date: Fri, 29 Dec 1995 08:59:53 -0800  
To: [BBSSIG@tapr.org](mailto:BBSSIG@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <30E41E89.956@waterw.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi All,

I'm looking for information that would help us in Southern New Jersey upgrade our backbone operation from 2400 to 9600 or 19200 baud. Some specifics I'm looking for are the equipment used such as data radios and tnc's and antenna types with low power data radios. Is anyone using the PACCOMM and TEKK radio combination on a backbone? How does it perform?

What we really need to know is what to stay away from since this will be a major effort by a lot of SYSOPS all at one time.

TNX 73,  
Mike Steiner  
WM2F@WM2F.SNJ.NJ.USA.NA  
MICHAELS@WATERW.COM

---

## 102. RE: [BBSSIG:2109] INFO 9600 AND 19200 BACKBONE

From: [mikeberg@willmar.com](mailto:mikeberg@willmar.com)  
Date: Fri, 29 Dec 95 15:23:04 PST  
To: [bbssig@tapr.org](mailto:bbssig@tapr.org)  
Message-ID: <Chameleon.951229152742.mikeberg@willmar.com.willmar.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi Mike. If I'm not mistaken, I sold you a 2400 baud modem for a MFJ 1270 tnc, right? If so, how did it work out? Can't tell you much about low power 440 radios, but I use 2 of the MFJ Data radios (2m @ 5 watts) and really like em. Being rock bound on a packet system isn't usually a problem and the crystal rigs give superior performance over the PLL type radios I've used. 73 Mike

-----  
Name: Mike Berg  
E-mail: mikeberg@willmar.com (Mike Berg)  
Ham Radio: N0QBH@N0QBH.#wcmn.mn.usa.noam  
Date: 12/29/95  
Time: 15:23:04

This message was sent by Chameleon  
-----

---

### 103. F6FBB-list Server,

From: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Sat, 30 Dec 1995 19:34:50 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951230193014.28453B-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,

Can anyone tell me if the F6FBB-list@phx-ax.com is operational ??

Or any info on it I have subscribed and had nothing back, I have also sent a inquiry to the Server and nothing back..

Are there any other Servers for FBB that I can subscribe to..

Any info appreciated...

Happy New Year To ALL....

73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

### 104. RE: [BBSSIG:2111] F6FBB-list Server,

From: "James R. Brooks" <jbrooks@midusa.net>  
Date: Sat, 30 Dec 1995 15:15:42 -0000  
To: "'bbssig@tapr.org'" <bbssig@tapr.org>  
Message-ID: <01BAD6CA.2B6224A0@jbrooks1.ix.netcom.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

>

>

> -----

> From: Phillip Conza[SMTP:zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz]  
> Sent: Saturday, December 30, 1995 12:45 AM  
> To: bbssig@tapr.org  
> Subject: [BBSSIG:2111] F6FBB-list Server,

>

> Hi,

> Can anyone tell me if the F6FBB-list@phx-ax.com is operational ??

>

> Or any info on it I have subscribed and had nothing back, I have also sent a inquiry to the Server and nothing back..

>

> Are there any other Servers for FBB that I can subscribe to..

>

> Any info appreciated...

>

> Happy New Year To ALL....

>

> 73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
> zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

>

>

It is still operational. It appears you are using the wrong address.  
Try "f6fbb-list@phx-az.com" instead of @phx-ax.

Jim  
K0JJV

---

### 105. Re: [BBSSIG:2111] F6FBB-list Server,

From: "Bob Nielsen" <nielsen@primenet.com>  
Date: Sat, 30 Dec 1995 10:14:58 +0700  
To: Phillip Conza <zl2tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>, bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <199512301714.KAA00821@usr2.primenet.com>  
Rendered body type: text/plain



Phillip Conza <z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz> wrote:

> Hi,  
> Can anyone tell me if the F6FBB-list@phx-ax.com is operational ??

That should be phx-az.com. Dan (n7mrp) who ran the list recently  
ceased his BBS operation, so the list may have disappeared as well.

Bob

-----

Bob Nielsen  
Tucson, AZ

Internet:nielsen@primenet.com  
AMPRnet: w6swe@w6swe.ampr.org  
AX.25: w6swe@wb7tls.az.usa.noam

---

## 106. Re :F6FBB-LIST

From: Phillip Conza <z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Sun, 31 Dec 1995 10:53:32 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951231105027.30715B-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi ,  
To those that replied THANKS I did have a typo in the message I sent  
out, I had phx-ax <--- and it should have been -az..

I have subcribed about 2 months ago and sent a message to the serverlast  
week can any one tell me if the message reached you...

73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz

---

## 107. QSL SERVER for FBB

From: Phillip Conza <z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Date: Sun, 31 Dec 1995 22:28:09 +1300 (NZDT)  
To: bbssig@tapr.org  
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951231222559.32287C-100000@shoppe.mlb.planet.gen.nz>  
Rendered body type: text/plain

Hi,  
I am trying to locate a QSL Server for FBB, some time ago a Packet  
message went about with the info ,but I had lost it..  
Has anyone on the SIG got it or knows where I can obtain it..

73 Phillip ZL2TZE  
z12tze@mlb.planet.gen.nz